



KENT ON SUNDAY

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KENT TEST IS 'ABUSE' OF PUPILS

Headteachers launch blistering attack on 'ludicrous' and 'damaging' 11-plus

THE darker side of the selective schooling system, where 75 per cent of children are labelled 'failures' and success depends more on family wealth than natural aptitude, has been exposed by a headteacher.

Phil Karnavas, principal of The Canterbury High School, a comprehensive rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted, said some of the 10 and 11-year-olds who sit the Kent Test will 'fail' after being put under immense pressure to pass.

The damage to their self-esteem could be profound, he said.

"It was this that led to a Kent County Council official remarking to me that some may see this as being pretty close to the emotional abuse of children," he told Kent on Sunday.

"I am afraid that I cannot change my view that to some extent success in the [11-plus] test now depends in part upon a parent's ability and willingness to pay for it.

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

"This is a difficult area. All parents want their children to do well and so I would not presume to say they are wrong.

"What I do say is it is wrong to place them in a position where they feel they have to make this choice."

Mr Karnavas said he was not criticising grammar schools, but the education system of selection, or what he calls "a system of rejection", and the way selection is made.

There are 39 grammar schools across Kent and Medway and they are the only fully selective local authorities in the county.

"In such a system the perceived success of the few depends upon the actual failure of the many," Mr Karnavas said.

"In Kent, 75 per cent of children are labelled failures because they are not entered for the test; or they are entered for the test and fail it; or they fail at appeal. This must damage a

young child's self-esteem and confidence. In some cases this damage will linger a lifetime."

Ian Johnston, principal of the Marlowe Academy in Ramsgate, said he would also like to see the selective system scrapped.

"I think it is completely ludicrous sitting the test at age 10 or 11," he said.

"The pressure and the expectations put on them is completely unwarranted.

"I've been in teaching for 28 years in comprehensive schools and for the life of me cannot get my head around this totally divisive system. I'm not sure it is even motivating or encouraging the most able to achieve as highly as they might.

"I know for a fact the issue those who fail face; the stigma of that, but also the difficulties they face working in high schools."

Mr Johnston said in his experience, grammar schools were trying to protect traditions and ways of working from the 1950s, which was not the best preparation for children

EXCLUSIVE


KENT cricket supporters could get the chance to see former England paceman Matthew Hoggard open the bowling at St Lawrence next season. The Ashes winner is a target for Kent having been released by Yorkshire after 13 years service.

SEE SPORT FOR FULL STORY

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



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Kent today



TODAY: Once any mist patches have cleared, it will be dry with patchy clouds, but also a good deal of sunshine. Gentle westerly winds. Max temp 11-14C (52-57F).
TONIGHT: Dry with clear spells but also large amounts of cloud at times. There will be gentle westerly winds. Min temp 5-8C (41-46F).

Around Britain

	low	high	low	high
Aberdeen	12:54	14:07	12:54	14:07
Belfast	12:54	14:07	12:54	14:07
Birmingham	14:57	13:55	14:57	13:55
Bristol	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Cardiff	14:57	13:55	14:57	13:55
Carlisle	13:55	14:07	13:55	14:07
Edinburgh	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Glasgow	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Leeds	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
London	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Manchester	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Newcastle	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Nottingham	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Sheffield	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Southampton	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Swansea	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55
Torquay	13:55	13:55	13:55	13:55

Sun & moon

Sunrise 7:25am	Sunset 5:30pm	Lighting up times
Moonrise 7:52am	Moonset 5:30pm	5:58pm to 7:27am

High Tides

	today	tomorrow
Dover	11:40 5.9 - 17:33 5.8	00:03 6.7 12:18 6.3
Margate	00:34 4.8 12:40 4.9	01:14 4.8 13:21 4.8
St Mary's	06:15 5.8 17:33 5.8	05:52 5.8 18:11 5.8

Week ahead

Monday Cloudy but dry. max 14C min 7C	Thursday A few showers. max 18C min 9C
Tuesday Cloudy Dry. max 16C min 10C	Friday Showers or rain. max 18C min 9C
Wednesday Windy Rain. max 16C min 9C	Saturday Heavy showers. max 16C min 9C

Fatal superbug trust again rated as 'weak'

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE hospital trust at the centre of the notorious superbug scandal that led to the deaths of 90 patients has been rated 'weak' for the quality of its services.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, which was hit by two outbreaks of Clostridium difficile between 2004 and 2006, did not meet one of three infection control standards in the Care Quality Commission's 2008-09 annual health check.

The trust, which has been rated weak for the third year running, said its score did not reflect the improvements it has made since the Healthcare Commission's damning report into the outbreaks was published in October, 2007.

Trust chief executive Glenn Douglas said: "We have made significant progress in the quality of our services in the last 18 months and while we accept the score is still likely to be 'weak', this is definitely an instance where a single word will not do us justice."

He said the trust was meeting 40 of CQC's 44 core standards and would be meeting the remaining four "within months".

Responding to concern's over the trust's

infection control record, Sara Mumford, director of infection prevention and control, said: "This [result] relates to measures the trust was still putting in place from April, 2008 – 18 months ago – which then led to one of the biggest reductions in cases of hospital acquired infections in the country last year. "Because not all of these infection control measures were in place from April 1, 2008, we cannot and did not claim to be fully compliant with this indicator for the entire year, which is the standard required by the CQC."

Shortfall

"We have some of the highest levels of cleanliness and safety. Patients can be reassured that infection control remains the highest priority of our board and all of our staff and this is reflected in the very low levels of infection we continue to achieve."

The CQC report said the trust was meeting all infection control standards by November, 2008, and noted it has some of the lowest rates of MRSA and C diff in the South East.

Roxy Boyce, regional director of the CQC,

urged the trust, which was among only two in the south east to score 'weak', to address the shortfall in its performance.

Other Kent trusts performed better, with three among the six in the region rated 'excellent' for financial performance, including Medway NHS Foundation Trust, Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust and East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust.

East Kent was rated 'good overall' for services, which is an improvement on last year's 'fair'. Medway was rated 'fair overall' and Dartford and Gravesham was 'rated good'.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust has been striving to improve infection rates since the Healthcare Commission, which has now been replaced by the CQC, published its damning investigation into the C diff outbreaks and found serious breaches of hygiene regulations at the trust's hospital sites – the Kent and Sussex, Maidstone, and Pembury.

The commission called for changes to improve the care of patients and the control of infection after more than 1,170 patients were found to be infected with C diff between 2004 and 2006. The report led to a national crackdown on superbugs and C diff being managed as a serious medical condition in its own right, not just a clinical complication.

Head attacks selective 'system of rejection'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

entering a global economy and working with people from different backgrounds.

Mr Karnavas said a significant number of year seven pupils at the county's grammars will have had a private education, private tuition or parents with the time and resources to coach their children.

He said these children were "not necessarily more able, just better prepared".

He added: "Regrettably, the testing system tends to reward parental affluence as well as, if not more than, a child's ability," he said.

"Grammar schools serve a relatively privileged socio-economic group. Looked-after children, children who have free school meals, students with English as an additional language, ethnic groups, those with special needs and so on, are under represented."

Increasing numbers of parents are hiring private tutors in the hope their child will win a place at grammar school.

Mr Karnavas said: "Some children have private tuition at a ridiculously young age. Some are tutored at 5am, some late at night; some spend the summer holiday being

crammed; some are offered cash incentives and some are placed under major strain."

Christine Turner, a teacher from Tunbridge Wells who provides private tutoring, said parents of pupils as young as seven has asked for tutoring for the 11-plus.

"Parents are panicking," she said. "I've had parents of children in infant school ask if I'll tutor them, but I won't do under year five."

She said while some of the children she tutored did feel the pressure, others were confident they would pass.

Mrs Turner also said it was not uncommon for parents to pay private primary school fees as well as for private tutoring.

Bullying

Mr Karnavas acknowledges the decision to have a selective system is a political one made by a democratically elected council and accepts its right to make it, but said the system of testing was seriously flawed.

"Children develop at different rates and times," he said. "Intelligence is not fixed and to pretend to be able to measure it accurately at 10 or 11 is a nonsense."

Martin Frey, of campaign group Stop The

Eleven Plus, said: "There is no question grammar schools are excessively middle class, so the claim they aid social mobility is not true."

"What distorts it is not just putting able children in grammars, but at the same time concentrating children with lower aspirations in other schools. Able children are in schools where to be a swot is subject to bullying. It is unbalancing every school."

Cllr Sarah Hohler, KCC's education cabinet member, said: "Kent's 100 secondary schools include foundation trust, faith, grammar, community high, wide ability and academies."

"This offers something for everyone. The vast majority of pupils are doing well and we are working with all our schools to make sure everyone achieves their potential."

"This year alone, more than 11,000 families registered their child for the Kent Test. If we believe in parental choice, we have to listen to what this is telling us. We do not advise coaching or tutoring. However, there is a substantial industry aimed at making parents and children think otherwise."

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KOS Media is launching two new weekend newspapers for Tunbridge Wells and the surrounding areas

New weekend read for west Kent

TWO new free local newspapers will hit the shelves next weekend for the west of Kent.

KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper, will unveil Tunbridge Wells on Saturday and its sister title Tunbridge Wells on Sunday, on October 24 and 25.

Both newspapers will be packed full of the very best local news from the spa town and nearby areas. There will be a boosted west Kent edition of our existing weekend papers too, bringing the best news from Tonbridge, Sevenoaks and the Weald, as well as the top county stories.

They will follow in the footsteps of our multi-award winning Kent on Sunday – bringing readers news, fea-

tures, leisure, business and sport.

The papers are launched in association with the So Tunbridge Wells magazine.

Editor of the new titles is Chris Britcher. Having overseen the launch of Kent on Saturday, he is excited at the new challenge.

He explained: "Our aim is for quality papers blending the very best and most interesting local stories relevant to the west of Kent, with the key county stories which will impact on the lives of so many."

"I have a strong, experienced, editorial team working on the titles and aim to deliver a great read each and every weekend."

There will be special launch events taking place next Saturday in Royal Victoria Place and the Pantiles on Sunday.

Based in offices close to the Pantiles, the reporting team will welcome readers' comments and suggestions. Write to them at 3 Cumberland Walk, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1UJ, or call 01892 616103.

You can email the newsdesk direct at tw@kosmedia.co.uk or the editor at chris.britcher@kosmedia.co.uk.

There will be dedicated websites too, bringing the latest news and sport – visit www.yourtunbridgewells.co.uk, www.yoursevenoaks.co.uk, and www.yourtonbridge.co.uk.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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MOTORISTS have been warned of large price hikes and longer delays if the Government goes ahead with its plan to sell the Dartford crossing.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown wants to raise £16 billion to reduce the Treasury's budget deficit, and this week proposed selling a portfolio of "non-financial assets" – which also includes the Channel Tunnel rail link – over the next two years.

The news has fuelled outrage among road-users who have campaigned for years for the Dartford tolls to be scrapped, and also casts doubts over the future of the proposed new Lower Thames crossing.

There are 53 million crossings through the bridge and tunnel a year. Gordon Telling, of the Tunbridge Wells-based Freight Transport Association, told Kent on Sunday that selling to a private company could hit motorists and businesses hard.

He said: "There would be a monopoly because there's no other way for people to cross the river. What's to say the price of the tolls won't be doubled? There are companies near Dartford with drivers who use the crossing two or three times a day. Any increase would have a big impact on them."

"It's not technically a toll any more – it's a congestion charge. The problem is congestion charges are meant to encourage motorists to go elsewhere, but there's nowhere to go."

Mr Brown's announcement of the proposed sell-off is at odds with a consultation currently being carried out by the Department for Transport, which seeks to find a solution for congestion at the crossing.

A Lower Thames crossing is one possible answer, while earlier this month Transport Minister Sadiq Khan revealed the Government was considering scrapping the tolls for motorists entering Kent via the Queen Elizabeth II bridge.

Mr Telling said: "This region desperately needs another crossing, but if I was an investor planning to buy the existing one I would want a promise that a new one wasn't

Crossing sell-off plan fuels drivers' anger

FOR SALE: The Dartford crossing



going to be built. That could compromise the local economy because traffic will only continue to grow."

When the QEII bridge was built in 1991, the Conservative government of the time promised motorists they would no longer be charged to cross the Thames once the cost of the construction had been met.

However, tolls remained once the debt was cleared in 2003 and late last year road-users were hit with increased charges at certain times of the day. Brian Gregory, chairman of the Association of British Drivers,

described the proposed sell-off as "absurd".

He added: "The Government clearly doesn't know what it's doing from one week to the next. What are they going to try to sell next, the Isle of Wight? The amount the sale might bring highlights what a money-spinner Dartford is for the Government, despite the promise to drop the tolls once the bridge had been paid for."

"Not only does this Government break its promises, it aims to profit from doing so."

Funds raised from the assets sell-off will help finance new capital investment and pay down debt.

Nationally, the Conservatives say the scheme is "probably necessary", but Tory MPs closer to home are not convinced. Gravesham's Adam

Holloway said: "Just last week the Government was considering my suggestion of removing southbound tolls to ease congestion, then a week later decides to sell it off. They've lost all credibility."

The Department for Transport told KoS its consultation on the future of the crossing would run alongside the Treasury's proposal to sell it off. Meanwhile, Eurotunnel put itself forward as a potential buyer for the Channel Tunnel rail link – also known as High Speed One – should it become available.

However, the AFP news agency said the French firm would be unlikely to enter negotiations without a financial partner. It is thought the link could be sold for between £3bn-£4bn.

Pfizer scientist receives OBE

A SENIOR figure at drug giant Pfizer has been presented with an OBE by the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

Senior vice-president and head of worldwide pharmaceutical sciences at the Sandwich company, Dr Annette Doherty, was given her award for services to the pharmaceutical industry during the past 22 years.

She said: "Throughout my career I've been fortunate to be part of and to lead truly outstanding teams of scientists."

Dr Doherty lives in Kent with her husband and three children.

Paedophile was Army caretaker

A MAN who was a live-in caretaker at a Maidstone Army cadet base has been jailed for three-and-a-half years after admitting gross indecency with children.

Francis Vousden, 63, who lived at the Kent Army Cadet Force HQ in Boxley Road, Maidstone, pleaded guilty to one count of indecency and eight counts of gross indecency with children, at Liverpool Crown Court on Monday.

None of the offences relate to his time at the base and took place more than 27 years ago. Vousden will no longer be allowed to work with children and will have to sign on the sex offenders' register for life.

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Experts warn against shooting 'foreign species' out of the sky

There's no need to kill off all the parakeets

PARAKEETS should not be legally killed off in Kent unless it can be proved they are wiping out other native birds, conservationists have warned, **writes Steve Knight.**

From January, landowners will be able to shoot or poison the common ring-necked species without having to obtain a licence first – sparking fears of a nationwide cull.

There are currently about 40,000 of the colourful birds living in the UK, with Thanet being home to a significant proportion of that number. Many have also spread from London to areas of north-west Kent.

RSPB spokesman Damian Fleming, of the North Kent Marshes team, said the charity would like to see scientific studies of the parakeet's impact in Britain before its protected status is downgraded.

He said: "The RSPB believes in scientific evidence. There are concerns that parakeets can out-compete woodpeckers and starlings, but we haven't seen that to be the case.

"We would like to understand what Defra

and Natural England's intentions are. It's hopefully a way of improving the licence system rather than a backdoor way of culling the birds, which we would not support."

Originally from the tropical climes of Africa and Asia, the ring-necked parakeet is now the UK's only naturalised parrot.

While they have been kept as pets since the Victorian era, it is unknown how they began breeding in the wild. Some people believe American guitarist Jimi Hendrix bred and released them when he lived in London during the 1960s, while others think they escaped from the set of 1951 film *The African Queen*.

According to the London Wildlife Trust, parakeets are now "as British as curry", a comment the Herne Bay-based Wildwood Trust has labelled "spurious". The trust is dedicated to the conserva-

tion of Britain's indigenous wildlife, and spokesman Martyn Nicholls said it was right to kill off birds that were proven to be threatening native species: "We're losing enough species as it is, so we should be protecting the ones that are left. It's not as if we can say we have plenty so it doesn't matter."

"When you start to introduce different species to the country, it can cause serious problems. Who would have thought grey squirrels would wipe out the red ones?"

"Sometimes it takes many years to understand the problems new species can create."

According to Natural England, the fact the parakeet has been downgraded does not mean people can kill the birds for no reason.

Landowners must be able to prove they cause significant damage to crops, have a negative impact on native wildlife or are a public health and safety concern or they could still face prison or a £5,000 fine.

Kent Ornithological Society president Don Taylor said he did not think there would be many instances where it would be acceptable to shoot parakeets.

He explained: "I don't think they're having any sort of detrimental effect on the birdlife in the county. I have a feeling this downgrading might make people think it's okay to go out shooting parakeets for no reason, but then again, people who do that sort of thing have no regard for the law anyway."

MP's power play

ERITH and Thamesmead MP John Austin has introduced a new bill in Parliament.

The Equalisation of Tariffs for Gas and Electricity Bill has received cross-party support.

Mr Austin said: "People who use prepay meters often end up paying the very highest tariffs for their fuel – despite being on the very lowest incomes. This is unacceptable and I will now be doing all in my power to ensure this bill becomes law."

Caretaker guilty

A FORMER school caretaker has been given a nine-month suspended sentence for making 143 indecent images of children.

A jury found Roger Brown, 50, of Maidstone, guilty after he denied nine counts of making indecent images of children.

Brown has been ordered to undergo a three-year supervision order, and attend a sex offender treatment programme. His jail sentence is suspended for two years.

To see this search 'buckmore' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Highlights of KOS Media's karting challenge at Buckmore Park in aid of Kent Kids for Christmas charity

Cost of living forces monks to move out

AN ORDER of monks who have lived in Kent for almost 150 years may have to leave the county in search of a cheaper home.

The Benedictine Monks have lived in St Augustine's Abbey, Ramsgate, since it was constructed in 1861, but spiralling repair and maintenance costs are to result in the historic building being put up for sale.

An appeal to raise funds for a new home elsewhere will be launched within weeks.

Dom Paulinus Greenwood, the abbot of St Augustine's, said the 11 monks who live there may not have a choice but to leave the county: "We wanted to get this decision out in the open so people can get used to the idea.

"We've already had some former parishioners in tears because we've been here for almost 150 years. We also ran a school for 130 years and a lot of people have benefited from our teachings.

"It seems like it's all coming to an end, only it's not. We just don't know where we might end up yet. It was a very difficult decision to make, and we've had regular discussions about it for three or four months..."

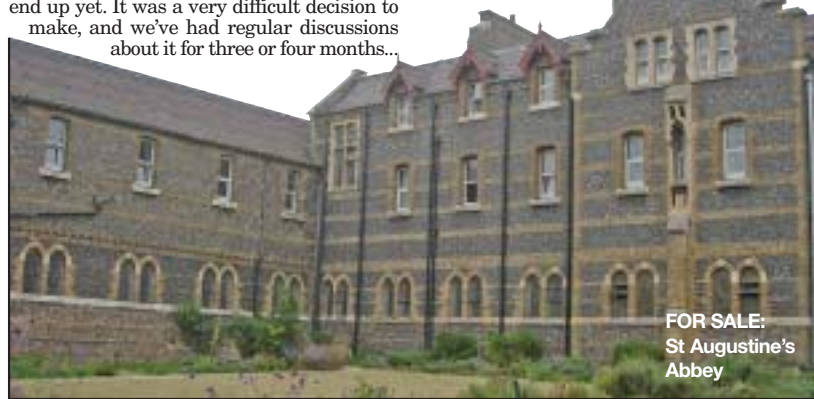
it's not something we've taken lightly.

"But the upkeep of such a large building is problematic. Carrying out work just to make it safe and habitable would cost about three or four million, and that's without the ongoing costs that come after it."

The first monks arrived in Ramsgate from the Italian monastery of Subiaco in 1856, with St Augustine's Abbey built for them by Edward Pugin – son of the renowned Gothic-revival architect Augustus Pugin.

They successfully evangelised much of the coastal region of Kent, establishing all but one of Thanet's existing Catholic parishes, while acting as chaplains to the region's numerous convents of nuns and religious sisters.

It is not yet known how much the Grade-I listed abbey will be put on the market for, nor how much the monks will need to raise to buy a new home.



FOR SALE:
St Augustine's
Abbey

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By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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WHILE some of Kent's MPs have railed against the audit of their expenses, others have expressed their willingness to cough up.

Veteran Tory backbencher Roger Gale, the MP for north Thanet, said the audit by Sir Thomas Legg had been "deeply flawed".

And former Conservative minister Ann Widdecombe, who represents Maidstone and the Weald, questioned the legality of the claim limits set by Sir Thomas.

Meanwhile, Tory frontbencher Greg Clark, the MP for Tunbridge Wells, said he had not been asked to repay any expenses, but had been asked to provide supporting paperwork for his mortgage, which he was happy to do.

Former civil servant Sir Thomas was appointed by Prime Minister Gordon Brown to conduct an independent audit of all MPs' expenses since 2004.

It came after the scandal broke revealing how MPs were claiming for TVs and furniture, and in one famous case a Tory MP who used taxpayers' money to buy a duck house for his lake.

It also emerged that some MPs had 'flipped' their homes to maximise their claims by changing the designation of their second homes.

Queries

This week, Sir Thomas sent letters to MPs asking them to repay thousands of pounds of claims. Some are angry because he has applied his own limits to what he thinks should be paid back.

Ashford's Damian Green, shadow immigration secretary, has been asked to pay back £1,324 on cleaning bills because of the retrospectively imposed limit of £2,000 a year.

He said: "In the interests of helping Parliament concentrate on its proper job and not become stuck discussing expenses, I will of course pay this sum back."

MPs have three weeks to reply to Sir Thomas with any queries over repayment.

Mr Gale, who said he would not reveal the figure he has been asked to pay back until Sir Thomas has responded, said: "I think the whole process is deeply flawed. I don't think retrospection is a good idea and it has hurt a lot of people. I understand the public are angry for various reasons and some people have behaved improperly."

Miss Widdecombe, who is said to have been asked to repay £235 for gardening, said: "What I will say is this; it is unlawful retrospectively to change the law."

Julian Brazier, the Conservative MP for Canterbury, has been asked for £3,635, the majority of which is for claims for Travellers' Club membership. He said he would be challenging the findings.

Derek Wyatt, Labour MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, has been asked to pay back £2,893 in second home allowances. He said Sir Thomas had found a number of mistakes in his claims and he was happy to rectify them.

MPs and expenses

– some to pay up, others to fight on

HORAM FEELS TIME IS RIGHT TO LEAVE POLITICS



EXIT RIGHT: John Horam

LONG-serving MP John Horam says he is confident his fellow Conservatives will not suffer as a result of his decision to quit.

The 70-year-old Orpington representative has spent more than 30 years in Parliament – serving as a minister in both Tory and Labour governments – but will not contest his seat at the next general election.

Despite being the 108th MP in the country to quit before polling day, Mr Horam told Kent on Sunday he was confident it would have no bearing on the end result.

He said: "I've done 18 years as an MP for Orpington and it's been a great honour, but I think it's time to stand down and let someone else take over."

"If you're going to make a

change then the timing is right at the moment because the Tories are in good shape, and I'm fairly confident whoever replaces me will be elected next year.

"Quite a lot of thought went into the decision because I've enjoyed being an MP. It was a tough call to make but, all things considered, it's the right one."

Mr Horam was first elected in 1970, as the Labour MP for Gateshead West and served as transport minister under Prime Minister Jim Callaghan before joining the breakaway SDP in 1981.

He unsuccessfully fought against Labour for the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Central seat in 1983, but returned to Parliament nine years later as the Conservative MP for

Orpington and was later made a health minister by John Major.

Mr Horam said some of his proudest achievements included a successful campaign for a new hospital in Bromley, and another to prevent Orpington hospital being turned into an NHS admin centre.

Mr Horam is the seventh Kent MP to announce he will not contest his seat at the polls.

Fellow Tories Ann Widdecombe (Maidstone and The Weald) and Michael Howard (Folkestone and Hythe) are also stepping down at the next election, as are Labour members Derek Wyatt (Sittingbourne and Sheppey), Howard Stoate (Dartford), Bob Marshall-Andrews (Medway) and John Austin (Erith and Thamesmead).

Labour's Gwyn Prosser, the MP for Dover, has not been asked for repayment, but has to clarify a claim where he paid his brother, who lives in Wales, £650 to fit laminate flooring in his second home in London.

Chatham and Aylesford's Jonathan Shaw, the minister for the South East, said he had not been asked to pay anything back.

Rebel Rochester and Strood Labour MP, Bob Marshall-Andrews refused to discuss the issue. The left-winger claimed £118,000 in expenses to furnish his Rochester flat.

Former transport minister Dr Stephen Ladyman, the MP for Thanet South, has been asked to provide information about mortgage interest he claimed. He said he had "no problem with the process".

Conservative Mid Kent and Faversham MP Hugh Robertson said he had been given the all clear.

Adam Holloway, the MP for Gravesham, has been asked to pay back £1,000 he

claimed on council tax during his first year he was elected. His spokeswoman said: "It was a complete and utter oversight and he's absolutely paying it back."

She said Mr Holloway and fellow north Kent MP, Dr Howard Stoate, who was not asked to pay back any expenses by Sir Thomas' audit, were both unhappy at the "unfair" treatment by the local press in their constituencies.

Maintenance

After the expenses scandal broke, Dartford Labour MP Dr Stoate pledged not to claim second home allowances in future and returned his entire claim for 2008-09 of £11,000. It came after the he claimed £55,836 in second home allowances over four years while having no rent or mortgage to pay, for a taxpayer-funded flat in London, which is only 15 miles from his constituency home, the Telegraph reported.

Former Tory leader Michael Howard has refused to reveal whether he has been asked to payback any expenses.

The Folkestone and Hythe MP was caught up in the scandal earlier this year when it was revealed he paid £17,000 over four years for gardening and maintenance at his Lympe home.

Transport minister Paul Clark has been asked to repay £164 for a washing machine he bought four years ago, which he said he would repay.

He said: "We need to do that for the safety of our democratic system; restoring the public and your readers' faith in local politicians."

Mr Clark denies claims he 'flipped' his second home designation – increasing mortgage interest claims from £880 a month to £1,175.

Orpington Tory MP John Horam, who has not been asked to pay anything back, said: "My own view is that they should not only pay the letter of the law, but the spirit of the law."

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KCC credit union help for the poor

A COUNTYWIDE credit union has been set up to provide help for people struggling in the recession.

Established by Kent County Council, the Kent Savers service will provide an alternative to loan sharks and unscrupulous lenders who charge exorbitant interest rates.

The union, which will be non-profit-making and run by a voluntary board of directors, will be regulated by the Financial Services Authority and could open as early as this week.

Cabinet member for economic development Cllr Kevin Lynes said the scheme was part of KCC's Backing Kent People campaign.

"Credit unions provide alternatives to the people who turn up on your doorstep with bags of cash and exorbitant interest rates," he said. "When we looked at these organisations, the APR (annual percentage rate) ranged from 299 to 899 per cent. There's even an online company that charges 2,500 per cent."

Targeted

Kent Savers will offer a fixed rate interest of 27 per cent, which Cllr Lynes says is in line with credit unions already operating in Canterbury, Thanet and Medway.

It will offer loans of between £500 and £5,000 and be targeted at residents who cannot guarantee earnings or who have no equity.

It will also provide a bill payment service and flexible and secure saving plans.

Cllr Lynes said Kent Savers would benefit people from across the county, even in towns considered wealthy such as Tunbridge Wells.

Residents will be able to access the Kent Savers service at one of the county's seven Gateways: Ashford, Dover, Maidstone, Tenterden, Margate, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells. A website has also been set up at www.kentcreditunion.org.uk.

Departing churchman laments erosion of BBC's religious content

Godless and thoughtless

CHURCH leaders have condemned BBC Radio Kent's decision to axe the religion and ethics feature Thought for the Day from its Saturday slot, **writes Jenna Pudelek.**

Dr Stephen Venner, the out-going Bishop of Dover and Bishop in Canterbury, said religious coverage on the station was "disappearing and being watered down".

The final straw came when it was announced the two-minute Thought for the Day segment was to be dropped from the Saturday breakfast show.

In an open letter to Paul Leaper, managing editor of BBC Radio Kent, Dr Venner laments the fact that 10 years ago the programme used to feature daily and was broadcast twice during the breakfast show from Monday to Friday.

"We're not making a special Christian or Church of England appeal. Thought for the Day is not even particularly religious in the sense you have to attend a church or mosque to listen. It's about keeping that moral dimension in our lives," Dr Venner said.

The so-called 'God-slot' is also a regular feature on BBC Radio 4's Today programme and gives religious leaders the opportunity to reflect on a topical message.

In January, Ariane Sherine gave the first atheist Thought for the Afternoon on the iPM show on Radio 4. Dr Venner would not comment on whether atheists should be allowed to contribute, but said: "With Thought for the Day, locally and nationally, you cannot say people have been sectarian. The whole point has been to speak to everybody while they are making breakfast or on their way to work. Thousands wrote in to

Radio 4 to complain when it was being considered for the axe, which shows people appreciate it who do not go to church; they are just thinking people. It's a moment of peace in what are by nature very busy programmes, a chance to think about the deeper meaning of life."



OUTSPOKEN: Dr Stephen Venner

axe the Saturday slot. The panel had not been told and he was "quite put out", he said.

"We expressed our concern and amazement that Thought for the Day had been taken away," said Fr McGreal, who has been involved with the station for 20 years.

"It always fitted into the programme; it wasn't just parachuted in. It wasn't too heavy and formal. It was conversational, about developing on issues that provoke people into a better way of living."

He agreed with Dr Venner that religious broadcasting had been reduced on Radio Kent in recent years.

"There are many on the station who are really committed to faith, presenters and

producers," Fr McGreal said. "But the manager driving the agenda feels he has to have everything '2010'. A lot of the things have been moved around." The station was losing its understanding of the community, he said.

Dr Venner, who retires on November 28, said: "The BBC is a public service broadcaster. Everybody pays the licence fee, so it ought to reflect all that is best in society, as well as the bad things. All that is best comes from people of faith and goodwill, people who are volunteers, people who have good ideas. The two minutes when they get their say is now in danger of being cut, so I thought it was the right time to say something."

Commitment

A BBC official said: "While this item is not currently included in Saturday breakfast, we can assure the Bishop and our audience our commitment to discussing religious affairs and moral issues is not restricted to Thought for the Day."

"Our Saturday show has been brought more in line with our Weekday Breakfast programme, which since its re-launch has substantially increased its coverage of these issues without restricting them to a specific slot."

"BBC Kent has a religious and communities producer who brings religious and ethical stories to a range of programmes across the week and weekends. We will continue to reflect the county's vibrant religious communities ensuring they play an important part in our overall output."

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SPLIT APART: Roger Gale laid a wreath during his trip to the 'Berlin Wall' of Cyprus

Obama 'doesn't know what he's talking about'

BARACK Obama has been asked by a veteran Tory MP to keep his nose out of foreign affairs he does not fully understand, *writes Steve Knight*.

Earlier this year the US President called for Turkey to be accepted into the European Union as soon as possible – something North Thanet representative Roger Gale believes should not yet be allowed to happen.

Since 1974 the Turkish Army has occupied large parts of Cyprus, and last weekend the Conservative stalwart attended a rally in the municipality of Morphou to support a protest against its continued presence.

Mr Gale said that until the military is ordered out of the region, Turkey should not even be considered for EU membership.

He said: "Barack Obama recently went to Turkey and said he thought the EU should hurry up and let them join.

"Now forgive me, but he clearly doesn't understand the situation and I think what he said was completely out of order.

"The Turks now occupy fully a third of the island of Cyprus, and they do so with the tacit agreement of the Americans, who see them as a key ally.

"Therefore if Obama wants to see them join the EU it's in his power to do something about it.

"I just don't think he has grasped the sit-

uation, and the EU has pretty much told him to mind his own business."

Following a failed attempt to overthrow the Cypriot government and join the island with Greece in 1974, Turkey – who had agreed along with Britain and Greece to defend the territory of the republic – launched an invasion.

Within weeks the Turks had gained control of more than a third of the island, resulting in the deaths and disappearances of thousands of men and women – the majority of them Greek Cypriot.

To this day the Turkish government refuses to reveal the locations of mass graves, and a large wall complete with barbed wire and machine-gun posts separates the Greek Cypriot governed south from the Turkish Cypriot north.

The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is only officially recognised by Turkey.

Mr Gale said: "There is a small but significant population of Greek and Turkish Cypriots living in Thanet – I would guess between 500 and 1,000 – and this is an issue that matters a great deal to many of them.

"I think successive British governments have acted quite shamefully over this because we should have done more.

"The EU is reviewing the situation in December and I shall be raising the matter in the House of Commons before then.

"The Berlin Wall is still alive and well in Cyprus, and I think it's an absolute disgrace."

Chinese refuse talks

THE exiled Dalai Lama has a new ally in his attempts to return to Tibet before he dies.

Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Derek Wyatt was one of four members of the All Party Parliamentary China Group who visited Tibet and Beijing last week in an attempt to help the Chinese government resolve a dispute lasting more than 50 years.

The current Dalai Lama – Tenzin Gyatso – fled to India following a failed uprising in March, 1959, and has not been allowed to return home since.

Mr Wyatt and his colleagues were invited by the Chinese government, but the Labour member said his suggestions on how to end the row were largely ignored.

He said: "On the Dalai Lama I suggested

they borrow from the examples of the IRA, the Palestinians, the Tamils and the ANC, by asking a third party to help them resolve the issue in confidence.

"The Chinese authorities saw this as a sign of weakness that they couldn't solve this themselves, whereas I kept saying to them it was a sign of strength and maturity.

"But alas my thoughts fell on stony ground."

In addition to its Dalai Lama agenda, the delegation also wanted to examine the reality of whether Tibet was truly an autonomous region within China.

Mr Wyatt said he was particularly interested in finding out the fate of monks missing during the civil unrest last year, but that its members' questions drew a blank each time.



EXILED: Dalai Lama

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Raise your glass to being aware

FROM Monday Kent is taking part in Alcohol Awareness Week to highlight how easy it is to drink more than the recommended weekly amount.

During the week, staff from the Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team will be stopping off in towns across the county to offer passers-by free non-alcoholic 'mocktails'.

They can also have a go at 'beer goggles', which simulate drunkenness, and guess the number of units in a series of drinks.

The week will culminate with a car simulator test, which shows what happens when people drink and drive after just a few drinks.

The Urban Blue activity bus will be travelling to Sheerness, Dartford, Dover, Ramsgate, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells.

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FAST RESPONSE: Frontline officers are receiving medical training to help at emergencies

Police's new training will save lives

MEDICAL training which was first given to elite SAS soldiers is helping Kent Police save lives at emergency scenes.

Officers who are likely to be first to respond to a call in which someone has suffered injuries are being trained to offer assistance before they can be handed over to medical professionals.

The training programme is based around that given to military special forces operating behind enemy lines and out of the reach of medics.

"Their objective is to keep people alive for seven days – ours is to keep them going for about 30 minutes," said Tactical Unit manager Paul Abdey who works one day a week as an ambulance man as well as running the police training.

The scheme is about to be rolled out nationwide following a decision by the Association of Chief Police Officers who have seen how successfully it is working among Kent's frontline officers.

As part of our A Safer Kent Campaign, reporter **NICK AMES** finds out how the county's police officers are learning another new skill to help save lives in an emergency

As well as the military background, it has been designed to incorporate elements devised by the USA's Department of Homeland Security which is applied to Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) teams.

The major factor is training police officers

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QUESTION: Do CCTV and Asbos really make a difference or are they just ways of appearing to tackle a problem?

Julia Hawes (Sheppey)

ANSWER: Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (Asbos) are just one of a number of methods we can use to help to reduce problem behaviour within our communities. But before we apply for an Asbo a great deal of preventative work is done with local authorities and other partners to address the issues that have been identified. Both overt and covert CCTV are excellent examples of how evidence can be captured, or used as a deterrent, to stop such behaviour.

QUESTION: In view of the positive benefits in the perception of the police and the proven improved relationship/respect between motorcyclists and police (see national press over much of the UK) as well as the benefit to motorcyclists improving their road skills and thereby potentially lowering accidents, will you be supporting BikeSafe next year after suspending it in 2009?

Gary, Ashford

ANSWER: BikeSafe is still considered highly beneficial and Kent Police are intending to deliver this scheme to specifically identified vulnerable riders who would benefit from improving their safety skills. Details about this revised scheme will be published in the near future.

QUESTION: Surely more police on the streets would be the answer to drugs, drunkenness and knife crime and make the public feel a bit better protected.

Patricia Burton, Folkestone

ANSWER: Drugs, drunkenness and knife crime are just a few of the areas we are tackling through direct police action. We also work closely with our partners in education and the licensing trade to resolve these issues. There are often many ways to solve a problem and the work of my officers on the ground, coupled with partnership working, is very effective.

It has long been recognised that the visible presence of police officers on patrol reassures the public. Since 2006, when Kent Police introduced dedicated Neighbourhood Teams, there has been a greater police presence than ever before on our streets. Police Community Support Officers are part of those Neighbourhood Teams and they actively patrol local areas to reassure the community and

deter criminality and anti-social behaviour.

One of my ambitions for the force is to work to make people feel safer, and local neighbourhood officers would like to hear from people who have particular concerns so they can intervene and work to find a solution.

The front counter staff at your local police station or the telephonist, if you 'phone in, will be only too pleased to give you the full contact details for your local neighbourhood officer. This information can also be found on the internet and at public libraries. Please get in touch and help us help you with the problems in your area.

QUESTION: Can you explain why for many years your officers have allowed hundreds of speeding motorcyclists to use the roads in and out of Tenterden every summer weekend as a virtual TT course. Not only are they a menace to themselves, but to pedestrians and all other road users as well.

I have complained to the previous holder of your position, but nothing was ever done and I certainly have never seen a speed trap on our local roads. Steps should, in my view, be taken now to prepare a rude awakening for these lawless idiots in time for next summer.

Peter Lake, Tenterden

ANSWER: Kent Police take the issue of speeding motorcyclists very seriously. In the Ashford district, which includes Tenterden, this important issue is treated as a priority in a number of wards following feedback from the PACT (Partners and Communities Together) processes in both rural and urban areas.

The subject of speeding motorcyclists forms part of our daily business and is incorporated into our 'You Said, We Did' information campaigns.

Since the beginning of last month 26 rural road checks have been completed in the Tenterden area, resulting in 46 drivers being dealt with for a variety of offences. In addition a specialist motorbike team patrols areas where problems are identified and provides advice to riders. Their role specifically focuses on reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads, but also addresses anti-social behaviour by riders.

QUESTION: I was relieved to hear that the decaying monstrosity that is the old police headquarters is to be finally pulled down this month. There have been false dawns before, but a new building site near it suggests someone



ASK THE CHIEF

Chief Constable Michael Fuller answers readers' questions as part of our **A Safer Kent Campaign**. See all of your questions and answers at

www.kentnews.co.uk

is hopeful that some planning for the future, in this downturn, is being made. Perhaps a developer can move in and kick-start the stalled development opposite: there are surely opportunities to still catch private homeowners seeking affordable homes outside London.

I was only thinking last week that without any clear demarcation and with broken windows everywhere that a compensation claim was coming the council tax payers' way. Indeed the local children, maybe in anticipation of some cleared ground that will serve as a football pitch, tennis grounds (at least in the interim please) or park (indeed) have taken to climbing on the roofs of late. I believe owners are

responsible for the welfare of the trespasser.

My question then to Chief Constable Michael Fuller is whether there is a plan beyond the demolition. As keepers of our social fabric I trust there is a well thought out time-line; that in particular once the rubble is cleared there is no chance that anything undesirable will fill the void.

If nothing is mapped out and a concretised parking lot is all that is anticipated in the not too distant may I implore you to consider the surely cheap, socially cohesive (in this corrosive environment) option of sports grounds for the youngsters.

Lee McCulloch, Rochester

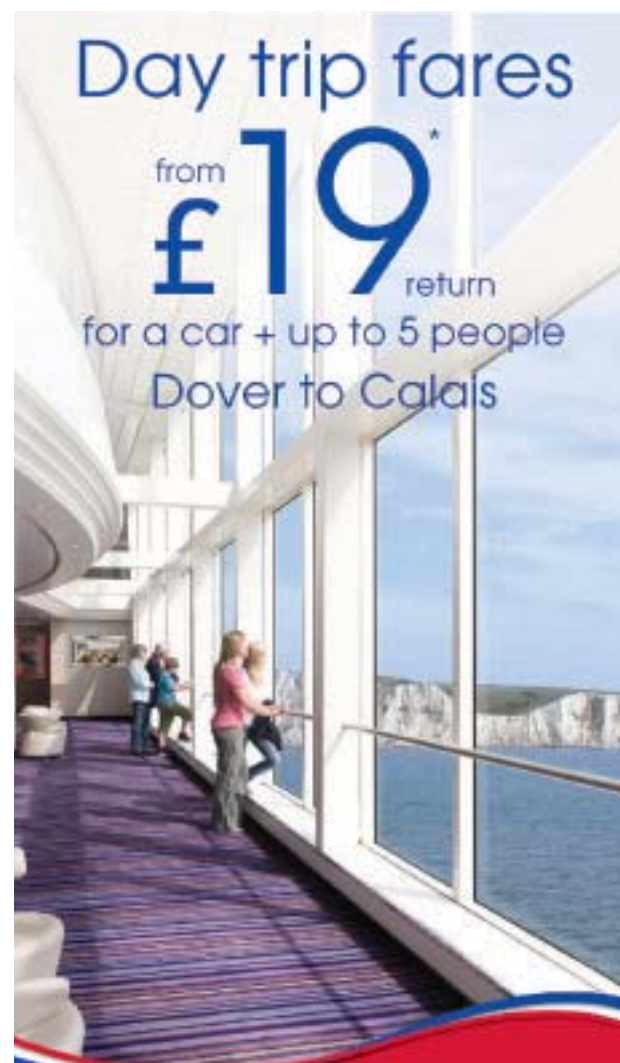
ANSWER: The Kent Police Authority has obtained outline

planning permission for the redevelopment of the former Rochester Police Station with a scheme of houses and flats.

However the poor economic climate, which has particularly affected demand for residential redevelopment sites, means the authority has not been able to transform the former police station in this way.

The authority has therefore decided to demolish the vacant building as this will save the substantial costs associated with retaining a redundant building, and it will also deal with the concerns of residents about public safety.

If the market for residential development land continues to improve it is hoped to offer the site for sale in mid 2010.



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who are part of the firearms unit, responsible for crowd control or likely to attend road traffic accidents. They are taught how to deal with trauma injuries and bleeding and are equipped with defibrillators, tourniquets and blood clotting agents developed for treating wounded soldiers in Afghanistan.

Mr Abdey explained the reasons behind the training.

He said: "There has always been this void in certain situations. If police throw up a cordon around, say, a firearms incident medical personnel are not permitted to breach it. Therefore it is up to police themselves to treat people who have been injured.

"So the unit was set up to train police officers in treating the injuries that are predictable at major incidents. The officers trained are the first who would respond to such an incident, but they would also need their skills in incidents we ourselves have created – such as a cordon around a building."

The police are trained to the level of an ambulance technician in their specialist areas.

Mr Abdey said: "These are around trauma injuries such as shooting or knifing and heavy bleeding. I am confident that there are situations in the past where people have unfortunately died where that would not be the result today. The training really does save lives."

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Fish are infected

AN OUTBREAK of a deadly fish virus has led to a restriction of movements at a Kent fishery.

It was confirmed on Wednesday that Koi Herpesvirus (KHV) has hit stocks at Chartham Angling Society Lakes, near Canterbury. There are no implications for human health.

Faith in media

FORMER popstar Rev Richard Coles is giving a talk at Canterbury Christ Church University, Broadstairs campus, on Thursday.

Previously one half of 80s pop duo The Communards, he will discuss faith in media.

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Cost of care is galloping out of reach for horses

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AN ANIMAL sanctuary that cares for some of the most seriously abused and damaged horses in country is "struggling desperately" due to the recession.

Sara Ross, who owns the Horse Refuge in Wittersham, near Tenterden, said financial pressures were forcing people to give up their horses. Some were bringing them to her for re-homing, or even just turning them loose without food or water.

She said the centre needed a miracle to survive the winter, with running costs of around £2,000 a week needed to keep the yard going.

With postal workers threatening nationwide industrial action next week, Mrs Ross fears if strikes go ahead postal donations will dry up completely.

"We are struggling desperately at the moment," she said. "The recession has made it a lot worse. The costs to run the stables, food and bedding prices have gone up and donations have all but dried up."

"Winter is always a bad time and we are scared for this winter."

"Figures for slaughter have gone



IN NEED: The fire brigade have to be called to help Dandy Boy back to his feet because the centre cannot afford to buy the equipment needed

up and many of these are horses being slaughtered unnecessarily in vast numbers for pet food."

Animal welfare charity the Blue Cross, which runs three equine centres, said it had seen a "marked increase" in horses and ponies being handed over to its refuges for financial reasons.

At the end of last year when the credit crunch was beginning to bite, more than 80 per cent of requests for the charity to take horses involved financial difficulties.

Mrs Ross said: "People are bringing them to places like us, but there are also horses just being turned

loose in fields. I believe all animals are suffering, but horses are more expensive to look after."

No horses are turned away from the refuge and it currently has 50 permanent residents, described as "beautiful and fantastic", but too badly abused to be re-homed.

One such example is Dandy Boy, who has recently started collapsing and Mrs Ross needs to buy expensive equipment so staff can get him to his feet, rather than having to keep calling firefighters.

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It won't kill you to wait

PLAY IT SAFE: In September alone five people were killed on the country's level crossings

THE golden rule when driving across railway lines with a train coming is to remember it is never going to give way to the motorist, *writes Chris Murphy*.

Yet shockingly, there are drivers in Kent who think just that if they approach a crossing and hear a train horn.

Others think the train will slow down to allow drivers over, and some drivers say they never bother checking the crossing's red lights before speeding through.

Another major excuse given by drivers is that they don't bother stopping until the barriers actually come down far enough to stop the car getting underneath.

Network Rail said it is shocked and appalled at some of the excuses it hears from motorists when they fail to obey all the signals at level crossings.

Drivers jump the lights and even weave round barriers, both of which are illegal as well as incredibly dangerous.

Yet they continue to flout the law and risk lives to save a few minutes on their journey.

Now Network Rail has launched a Don't Run the Risk level crossing awareness campaign for the autumn, and is urging drivers to take responsibility for their crazy actions at crossings.

Between January and August this year, five motorists and five pedestrians in Kent have narrowly avoided a potentially fatal collision with a train at the county's 320 crossings. It is running at three near-misses a week nationally.

In that time, across the UK, there have been nine collisions and seven deaths. And then in September, there was five more deaths in one month alone.

The Kent incidents involving vehicles were at Chandlers, Birchington; Bow Hill, Watlington; Queens Farm Road, Shorne-mead near Higham; A228 at Grain; and Simmonds, Minnis Bay. The crossings with incidents involving pedestrians were Milner Court footpath, Sturry; Bow Hill, Watlington; Pilgrims Way, near Otford; between

Ham Street and Ashford International; and Cut End, between Minster and Sturry.

A survey found a shocking 45 per cent of people had no idea what to do at a level crossing.

Iain Coucher, Network Rail chief executive, said: "The rules around level crossings are clear and simple. When the lights flash or the barriers are down, don't cross."

"Signs asking users to stop, look and listen or reminding you to contact the signaller before crossing are clear and must be followed. We understand that people have busy lives and waiting can be frustrating."

"Our campaign asks 'would it kill you to wait?' because sadly we know that not waiting can result in tragedy – and there's no excuse for that."

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*Oliver Heath will not be presenting the 7.00pm show.



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By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A RAPIST whose victims included a widowed pensioner has finally been jailed, more than 20 years after his brutal attacks.

Stephen Johnstone, 50, from Scotland, thought he had got away with his crimes – the



CAUGHT: Rapist Stephen Johnstone has been jailed

Jenny Thrower said: "Johnstone's offences were particularly brutal, leaving both victims badly traumatised and suffering significant after-effects, even until today."

"It is right that he should be held to account for his crimes, and that a menace to society should be taken from our streets."

A convicted burglar, Johnstone committed his first rape on a 62-year-old Bexleyheath pensioner after breaking into her house while she was sleeping, on September 13, 1989.

Following the attack, he stole jewellery including a wedding ring that belonged to her late husband.

Just over a month later, on the afternoon of October 23, Johnstone forced his way into a 25-year-old woman's home in Barnet, Hertfordshire, before beating her unconscious and raping her. He then stole more jewellery and cash before leaving.

An investigation was launched immediately following the crimes, which police were able to link using DNA evidence left at both locations.

However, despite local media appeals and efts supplied by both victims, they were unable to track down who was responsible.

DNA database

The trail went cold until last year, when the Met's cold case team used the latest technology to upgrade its DNA database and review historic crimes. This led them to Johnstone, who had earlier provided a sample after being stopped for drink driving, this sample matched traces left at the homes of his rape victims.

He was arrested at his home in

first of which occurred in Bexleyheath in 1989 – but advances in DNA technology led to police finally tracking him down.

On Monday he received sentences of nine years for rape, four years for burglary and three for actual bodily harm, to run concurrently.

Det Con

Justice finally done, 20 years after rapes

Montrose, Angus, on April 21 and charged the next day. Despite denying the offences initially, Johnstone later pleaded guilty to two counts of rape, plus one each of robbery, burglary and ABH.

DC Thrower said: "This case shows the Met-

ropolitan Police will do everything possible to make sure offenders are brought to justice – regardless of when the crime was committed."

Advances in technology have led to countless criminals being tracked down long after their crimes were carried out.

Kent Police's cold case team secured its first conviction in August last year when 46-year-old customs officer Kelvin Bennett was found guilty of the rape and kidnap of a 21-year-old Folkestone woman eight years earlier.

He was jailed for 12 years.

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STAR: June Jailer spent three days filming

Hospice cashes in on gifts from attic

BBC show *Cash in the Attic* has been filmed in Kent, with a hospice reaping the rewards.

June Jailer from Walmer, recently lost her husband Mike, but his final days were made more comfortable as a day-patient at the Pilgrims Hospice in Canterbury.

She wanted to give something back, and it was her son David who came up with the idea of getting in touch with the BBC show where people's hidden gems are taken to auction.

Her attic has been an Aladdin's Cave of hidden treasures, but she was persuaded to clear it out to raise vital funds for the hospice.

The mother and son were filmed taking a tour of the buildings, meeting staff, and handing over the cheque.

June said: "Mike would have wanted me to do this. Before he died he had started to sort through his belongings and wanted to sell some to raise money for the hospices."

And there were plenty of collectables to go under the hammer, including rings, crockery and clocks, raising over £1,000.

The hospice, opened in 1982 by the Queen, said the cash will go towards the purchase of a new reclining chair for day hospice patients.

June said: "Mike had problems with his back because of his illness and found these chairs incredibly comfortable, so I would like other people to benefit in the way he did."

The hospice provides palliative care free of charge to people in east Kent with a range of illnesses that cannot be cured, including cancer, heart failure, respiratory conditions and neurological diseases, costing £8 million a year. The Pilgrims Hospice episode will be screened on Friday at 11.30am on BBC1.

To help, see www.pilgrimshospice.org or phone 01227 812 621.

Physicist with his eye on technology

PIONEERING research conducted at the University of Kent could help change the way doctors approach eye diseases such as glaucoma, *writes Steve Knight*.

Romanian-born physicist Professor Adrian Podoleanu has developed a unique method of combining laser technology with 3D imaging to aid the early diagnosis and treatment of such conditions.

His work is so highly regarded it has been held up by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) as an example of how the study of physics can benefit society in general.

Prof Podoleanu told Kent on Sunday the university could potentially benefit in a big way from his breakthrough.

He explained: "There are three key stages to my work – one is to carry out the research, two is to teach it to students because we need to create specialists, and three is to take it outside the university and exploit it commercially."

"I think the university realises there is something in this technology, and that's why we've been able to protect it by writing several patents for it."

"Over time if it does become fully commercialised, which we think it will, then the university will feel the benefits of it."

Prof Podoleanu's work centres around two visual imaging techniques known as adaptive optics and optical coherence tomography (OCT), the latter of which was also pioneered at the University of Kent (UKC).

Adaptive optics is laser technology that was originally used to allow astronomers to see sharper images of stars, while OCT is effectively 'optical ultrasound' that captures reflections from within thin tissue to provide high-quality 3D images.

The advancement can also be applied to a number of other fields, including dentistry and art conservation.

Prof Podoleanu said: "This is about an imaging technology whose potential is still not fully exploited, and the years to come will see its expansion to fields outside ophthalmology [study and treatment of visual diseases]."



TECHNIQUE: Professor Adrian Podoleanu

"We are fully engaged in evaluating its value for microscopy, where we expect to enhance our abilities in visualising cells, embryos and study materials."

The EPSRC is the Government's leading funding agency for research and training in engineering and physics.

It included Prof Podoleanu's work in its latest publication entitled *Optics and Photonics: Physics Enhancing Our Lives*, which was jointly sponsored by the Institute of Physics.

Professor Paul Strange – head of UKC's school of physical sciences – said: "This development is an excellent example of physics working for the good of society."

"I am very pleased Prof Podoleanu's research has been recognised by the research councils and the Institute of Physics."

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KENT ON SUNDAY

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

SOCIAL care policies unveiled at the main party conferences have sparked a fresh public debate.

That has been welcomed at County Hall in Maidstone and director of adult social services, Oliver Mills, said it was important people of all ages got involved in the debate over how social care will be funded and provided in future.

The Government has said the current system, designed in 1948, is "not fit for purpose".

Mr Mills agreed, and said Kent County Council was doing its best to make it work, but by 2021 the number of people aged over 85 in Kent will be rising by 6,200 per year.

"The important thing is not to wait," he said. "Radical thinking is required for that level of change and for people to get out what they expect and need."

"There are demographic increases and pressure in public finances. The demographic time bomb is with us already. It is urgent and something needs to change."

In the face of huge demographic changes – the Government says by 2026 1.7 million more people will need care and support – and with a predicted £6 billion black hole in the social care budget, the Department of Health is consulting on a Green Paper that proposes options for future funding.

It's not just older people who receive support from social services, it is also adults who have, for example, learning difficulties and physical disabilities.

The discussion document, Shaping the Future of Care Together, lists funding options and outlines proposals for a National Care System. People have until November 13 to respond.

Benefit

At the Labour conference in Brighton, Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced that elderly people with the highest levels of need would be given free personal care so they could stay in their own homes, from October, next year. This would cost an estimated £670m and benefit 350,000 people.

However, Mr Mills pointed out the Government ruled out a tax-funded option when the Green Paper was published in the summer.

Health think-tank The King's Fund raised concerns that if the extra funds were not ring-fenced there was a danger local authorities would have a "perverse incentive" to encourage people into residential care, which they would have to pay for themselves.

At their party conference in Manchester, the Tories unveiled plans for a home protection scheme aiming to prevent older people being forced to use their own assets to fund their care in later life.

The scheme would involve a voluntary, one-off £8,000 payment into an insurance scheme, which is similar to the voluntary insurance scheme laid out in the Government's Green Paper.

But Mr Mills voiced concerns that people

Everyone urged to join in social care policy debate

could end up going into residential care simply because they had paid into the scheme.

"Both schemes have raised a debate, which is the important thing," he said. "The options are out there and people are talking, which is very welcome."

Mr Mills said it was unclear whether the Government would publish a White Paper on the proposals before the general election or whether each party would use the consulta-

tion to shape their manifestos on social care.

"Looking at specifics, the National Care Service needs a lot more thought about what that actually means and the extent to which services reflect local need," he said.

"Kent's view is we would be very keen for an opportunity to test out how it would all work."

Under the current system, local authorities assess people's need on a four-point scale, which has led to a postcode lottery developing

in terms of how much families have to fork out for care. People with assets worth more than £23,000 must pay for their own residential care costs, which means many older people are forced to sell their homes.

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Bloom takes role of Unicef's leading man

CANTERBURY-born movie actor Orlando Bloom has become a goodwill ambassador for children's organisation Unicef.

The Pirates of the Caribbean star said his work will help poor children and raise awareness of the organisation.

The 32-year-old's first task will be to film an appeal about the importance of clean water supplies.

Stars who have held the ambassador role before him include Audrey Hepburn, Sir Roger Moore, David Beckham, Jackie Chan, Mia Farrow and Vanessa Redgrave.

A former pupil of St Edmund's School in Canterbury, Bloom has already been doing work for Unicef.

From a humble start – Bloom started his acting career in three episodes of BBC's Casualty – he landed the part of Legolas in Lord of the Rings just two days after graduating from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, then he appeared in the hit film Black Hawk Down.

He went on to become one of the world's most popular male celebrities thanks to his boyish good looks, and has picked up a host of titles like 'most desirable date' and 'most attractive' by a mass of style magazines.

But Orlando has refused to become simple a good looking icon, and made it known two years ago that he wanted to support Unicef as an active ambassador.

He has campaigned in Australia to get support for victims of this year's bushfires, and has already been on Unicef missions to Moscow and Sarajevo.



Picture: UNICEF/BRIAN SOKOL

STAR TURN: Bloom during trip to Nepal

Bloom said: "Unicef doesn't just deliver humanitarian aid, which is what they are known for all over the world.

"They also educate and provide tools which help women and children face challenges specific to their own lives.

"I responded to how Unicef works as much as I did to the work itself."

Unicef's executive director, Ann Veneman, said: "Advocacy from Unicef Goodwill Ambassadors helps build momentum to improve the lives of children around the world. We are proud to have Orlando Bloom as one of the strong voices for vulnerable children."

During a trip to Nepal he visited schools in the remote western districts of Kaski and Chitwan, two of the poorest areas of the country and performed a small role in local school radio production.

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Howletts and Port Lympne house the world's largest collection of gorillas in human care – with 78 Western Lowland gorillas between the two parks. This half term, children and adults are invited to hear talks from the expert keepers about the parks most famous residents as part of a month of gorilla-themed activities. As well as hearing all about the lives of the gorillas at the parks, visitors can learn about the vital conservation work carried out by the parks through The Aspinall Foundation, which seeks to stop the rapid decline of critically endangered Western Lowland gorilla numbers.

With fewer than 100,000 Western Lowland gorillas left in the world, their extinction is a real possibility by 2020 if numbers continue to decline at the present rate. Through their consistent rescue and rehabilitation projects in Africa, the parks have overseen the release of more than 50 wild-born gorillas—all orphans of the bush-meat trade—into protected areas in the Congo and Gabon. As part of their commitment to breeding

endangered species, the parks have also reintroduced 10 hand-reared gorillas born at the Kent parks to their ancestral homes, including the successful introduction of 3 gorillas last summer to the national park in Gabon.

Gorillas spend over 30% of the day eating, and visitors will have the chance to witness their natural foraging behaviour that Gorillas display when receiving their feeds. Peckish guests can head to the park's restaurant and dining area to curb their own appetites – with each kids meal coming with a free gorilla mask to add a bit of the wild into the dining experience!

As if this isn't enough, every day one lucky visitor (over 7 years old) will win the chance to take part in a gorilla feed by being named as the Golden Ticket winner of the day.* On arrival every child will be given a free goodie bag, packed full of activities to excite their curiosity in gorillas. From colouring sheets to puzzles, gorilla craft sessions to free gifts there'll be more than enough to keep everyone happy this Gorilla month!



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Question: On what channel were these two series first shown?

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And don't worry if you're not lucky this time, these series, and many more from the History Channel, are available by visiting www.amazon.co.uk.



Singer is torn by Jess' plight

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

POPSTAR Natalie Imbruglia has appeared in a concert to raise funds for a girl desperate for a double lung transplant.

Seriously ill Jess Wales, 20, from Westgate in Thanet, suffers from cystic fibrosis. But that hasn't stopped her winning hearts with her determination to survive.

The singer performed an acoustic set at the Save Jess-tival show held in Shoreditch, east London, on Friday.

It was to raise awareness of organ donation because even today, the number of people needing transplants far outstrips the availability of organs.

Jess is fighting for her life with just 11 per cent of her lung capacity left. She has waited more than four years for the operation, despite being told she would be dead in 24 months.

She met the Aussie singer last year, and the celebrity was deeply moved. The 34-year-old said: "I told her to let me know if there was every anything I could do to help."

"I was sad to learn Jess is now so ill and so was delighted to be asked to take part in this gig."

Others who have offered Jess their support include the Prime Minister's wife Sarah Brown, comedians Dara O Briain, Bill Bailey, David Baddiel

and Phil Jupitus, TV presenter Jonathan Ross and Limp Bizkit singer Fred Durst.

Jess has been running an internet campaign to encourage more people to sign up to donate their organs in the event of an accident so some good can come from tragedy.

Recently Jess attempted to complete 20 per cent of the 5km Adidas Challenge run in London's Hyde Park by walking, but her condition is so bad she was unable to finish.

She relies on an oxygen supply 24 hours a day and a non-invasive ventilator to keep her lungs going when they regularly start to tire.

Jess said: "A lung transplant for me will be literally life changing."

A recent survey found 80 per cent of people agree with donating their organs, but a mere 25 per cent have actually done anything about it and signed up.

See www.savejess.org.uk.



PUBLICITY: Natalie Imbruglia sang to raise awareness of the need for organ donation to help people like Jess Wales

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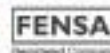
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Tourists to investigate links with super sleuth

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE release of the controversial new Sherlock Holmes movie that was partly filmed in Kent is set to spark a tourist stampede.

Madonna's former husband Guy Ritchie is the man behind the new film about the super sleuth. But despite not being released until Christmas Day, it has already drawn criticism from traditionalists for its new all-action look.

The film stars Robert Downey Jr as the detective, with Jude Law as his sidekick Watson. Both are known as real-life hell-raisers, and the pair continue that style on screen too, with epic explosions and punch ups.

The film coincides with the 150th anniversary of the birth of the detective's creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Tourism chiefs are now hoping the film will inspire visitors to flock to Kent locations linked to Conan Doyle.

Members of the cast and crew stayed at the Bridgewood Manor Hotel in Chatham, and some of the more explosive scenes were shot at Chatham's historic dockyard. But the author himself also has links with towns in the county, including Dover, Margate, and Whitstable.

Sandra Matthews-Marsh, chief executive of Visit Kent, said: "We are delighted that one of our great attractions, the Historic Dockyard



Kent economy and we are fortunate the council is fully supportive with its film office."

Kevin Lynes, cabinet member for regeneration and economic development at KCC said the office has so far generated £13 million of business for Kent.

Conan Doyle lived between 1859 and 1930 and had plenty of connections with the county. Groombridge Place Gardens and its Enchanted Forest were the inspiration for Birlstone Manor in 1915's *The Valley of Fear*.

When Doyle wrote the book he was living nearby at Crowborough and was a frequent visitor to the 17th-century moated manor.

During World War Two, Conan Doyle's daughter Lena was the admin officer at the secret listening station at RAF West Kingsdown.

In Margate, the author wrote cryptically about a local woman in the short story, *The Adventure of the Second Stain*.

The author investigated spiritualism and a haunting at the Old Oak Cottage in High Street, Minster, near Ramsgate.

Despite killing off Holmes in 1893, to massive public outrage, there were eventually four novels and 56 short stories, including three using Canterbury. Not all of them were by Doyle, but another writer called Miles Elward.

One was *Sherlock Holmes in Canterbury*, and another called *The Missing Cleric*.

England's oldest parish church still in constant use, St Martin's in Canterbury, was used in *The Ball of Twine*.

For more details and an itinerary for the Conan Doyle tour, visit www.visitkent.co.uk.

ALL-ACTION: Robert Downey Jr and Jude Law play the latest incarnation of Holmes and Watson in the film partly shot in Medway

Chatham, was chosen as one of the locations for the new Sherlock Holmes film.

"Kent has so many other strong links to the great author that will interest visitors, and to celebrate this, Visit Kent has produced a three-day Sherlock Holmes itinerary, based on the Kent connections. Not only is this appealing to set-jettlers but tour operators developing packages for next year have shown interest."

"Film tourism is extremely valuable to the

Phonecall helps to save woman

AN emergency operator helped an elderly woman escape a blaze at her home.

Kent Fire and Rescue's Natalie Pavey took the call from a distressed woman at around 10pm on Tuesday. A fire had broken out in her living room and she was trapped in her home in Moss End Mews, Ramsgate.

Firefighters believe the cause of the blaze was a discarded cigarette.

Watch manager Emma Reilly said: "Natalie told her to keep low and gave her other survival tips but mainly tried to calm the lady until crews arrived."

Crews from Thanet attended the blaze and firefighters found the woman, believed to be in her late 60s or early 70s, in the back garden. She was taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation.

Museum to get £2m lotto boost

A MUSEUM has been awarded nearly £2 million by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Maidstone Museum and Bentrif Art Gallery said the funds would be used for its East Wing project, which will create a new entrance, improve visitor facilities and upgrade exhibition spaces.

A new education suite will also be added along with wheelchair access to the galleries at the museum, which boasts a collection of 660,000 objects ranging from a 2,700-year-old Egyptian mummy to bronzes by the modernist sculptor Henry Moore.

Maidstone Museum opened in 1858 and part of it is housed in a Grade-II listed Tudor mansion, including a great hall that dates from 1564.

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Author laments decline of county's watermills

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

A **LIFELONG** fascination with watermills has inspired a book lamenting the loss of the structures that once dominated the banks of Kent rivers.

In *Memories of Kentish Watermills*, author Alan Stoyel takes a nostalgic look back at his childhood documenting the mills near his home in Orpington.

He told how his first memory of a watermill was when, aged eight, he sat with his father on a wall beside Longford Mill, near Dunton Green, sketching the building.

But it was Elm View Mill on the outskirts of Westerham on the banks of the River Darent that hold a special place in his heart.

"That was the subject of my first attempt at understanding a watermill," he said. "I was 13 at the time and I had cycled to this ruined mill about 12 miles from home."

"It still had its waterwheel and I learnt to admire how the clear water of such a small stream had been harnessed to drive heavy machinery. There was no ugliness, no pollution."

The book contains a lifetime of work, published 50 years on from when he would cycle to the ruined mills of west Kent and document them, speaking to local people who would reminisce about their past way of life and sketching the already crumbling structures.



BYGONE DAYS: Victoria Mill in Dartford was one of the 50 watermills once found in Kent

"My father was mad on steam engines," he said, explaining how his fascination developed.

"I loved old machinery and water, so the combination was too much to ignore."

Mr Stoyel left Kent in 1960, and went on to work as a mining geologist in Canada.

He dug out his early work documenting mills, and when he returned to Kent found the county of his childhood was much changed.

"When I knew Kent there were still lots of rural parts left," he said. "When I was young there were still people left who had worked in the mills."

"I hope the book will give people a sense of what they used to be and it will hopefully trig-

ger off efforts to preserve more of the past."

He said at one time more than 50 watermills existed on the banks of the rivers Darent and Cray, but today none survive as complete structures and many have been completely demolished.

Mr Stoyel, who now lives in Herefordshire, said: "The Westerham mill was a romantic ruin when I was younger, it still had its waterwheel, but it did not have a roof."

"Suddenly it was demolished and I was extremely upset."

The brickwork of the Elm View Mill dated from the 18th century and was a particularly bright red, he remembers in the book.

As a young boy he was excited to meet a 99-year-old local man who remembered the iron waterwheel being installed and replacing the old wooden one.

"What he did was to bring this derelict shell of a mill back to life, helping me to visualize it in its working state, so long before," he said.

The book includes many historic pictures of watermills including the impressive Victoria Mill in Dartford. In a photograph dating from the 1890s it is shown when trade was at its peak and then contrasted with another image from 1961 showing its demise.

He added: "When these mills were first built there were no concerns about renewable energy or carbon footprints. A continuous stream of water was all that was needed to drive heavy machines all day long."

Memories of Kentish Watermills is priced £9.99 and available to order online.

Tory plans to open grace and favour homes to public

A **PRIVATE** mansion on the outskirts of Kent could have its doors forced open to the public should the Conservatives win the next general election.

The 115-room Chevening House – in Chevening, near Sevenoaks – is one of three grace and favour residences the Tories would like charities and voluntary groups to be able to use for fundraising events.

Situated near a lake in the midst of a 3,500-acre estate, the mansion is the official country retreat of the Foreign Secretary – currently David Miliband – and is traditionally used to entertain members of foreign governments. However, the Tories say this has happened on just five occasions between 2000 and 2006.

Prime Minister

Shadow cabinet office minister Francis Maude said: "Conservatives will explore how we can open these grace and favour residences to charities and voluntary groups, letting them hold receptions and events to benefit good causes."

The property is run by the charitable Chevening Trust, although the Government has a significant influence over who sits on the board.

However, secretary to the board of trustees Colonel Richard Brook told Kent on Sunday it would not be a simple process.

He said: "It's actually for the private use of whoever is nominated to use it by the Prime Minister, and we are all bound by the Chevening Act which lays down exactly how the house is used. The trustees do open the house at the moment to visitors under certain circumstances, and also the gardens for charitable use each year."

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CHRIS BRITCHER
CAMPAIGN EDITOR
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Slow chicken in red wine with smoked bacon

Ingredients

50g butter
12 baby onions (peeled and left whole)
150g button mushrooms (left whole)
50g flour (browned)
1 whole chicken (jointed)
150g smoked bacon (cut into lardons)
4 cloves garlic finely chopped
250ml red wine
250ml brown chicken stock
Bunch of chopped parsley
2 bay leaves
Sprig of fresh thyme

Method

Pre-heat a large pan, add a little olive oil. Dust the flour onto a plate, then coat the seasoned chicken pieces, before placing them into the pre-heated pan. Colour the chicken on one side then turn add the butter and continue to colour until golden brown. Add the baby onions, bacon and garlic and continue cooking for a few minutes, then add the mushrooms, bay leaf and thyme. Add the red wine and stock, bring to the boil, cover and place into a pre-heated oven (180C) for approximately one hour.

To serve

Sprinkle the casserole with parsley and serve with creamed mashed potatoes.

Warming up for winter

SEPTEMBER has been a hectic month which ended with me opening a new restaurant venture in Chester; my first outside Kent.

Restaurant launches are always an exciting time, often filled with the unexpected.

Preparing a menu for the opening is exciting and a chance to establish the identity of the restaurant with the public. My commitment to sourcing locally and providing the best seasonal produce available remains the foundation of my approach in Chester.

Being an executive chef at the Oddfellows gives me a chance to build a team that understands this ethos and approach from the kitchens to the front of house and that is vital to ensure everything runs smoothly when I am not able to be there.

It is the same at Chapel Down, Thackeray's and the Hengist. Obviously I cannot be at all places at once, so building a team who fully understands my commitment to quality, taste and value is as important as the food itself.

This time last year we had the excitement of our Chapel Down restaurant being one of the finalists for the Kent Restaurant of The Year in the Taste of Kent awards, run by Produced in Kent.

We have been working hard to improve on last year's results and it would be great to have all three Kent restaurants achieve final placing with the judges.

Again, the teamwork I mentioned earlier is very much exemplified in my Kent restaurants, as is our commitment to customers and providing the best dining experience and excellent seasonal produce.

It is always difficult to know exactly what the judges are looking for and you can only do your best.



Celebrity chef Richard Phillips, who runs three restaurants in the county and supports of our local food campaign, looks at a busy month, the changing seasons and its impact on his menu.

The good thing about these awards is that the public also get a chance to influence the judging by voting at the Produced in Kent website www.producedinkent.co.uk.

Recently I have been busy filming a new series of Ready, Steady Cook and had the bizarre experience of completing the Christmas special a few weeks back while the sun was shining and the temperature at its peak.

It was quite a stretch of the imagination to be working around a set decorated for Christmas while the sun was hitting 80 Fahrenheit outside, but we had lots of fun and it will be interesting watching it closer to Christmas.

With the arrival of October everything growing in the garden suddenly seems to be slowing down and changes in air temperature turn our thoughts to the coming winter.

The trees are changing hues to warm reds, rust coloured browns and leaves are falling, leaving branches bare. The harvest is in and we can prepare for an abundance of good seasonal win-

ter root vegetables, such as parsnips, swedes, turnips, carrots plus a variety of squashes and other family favourites such as Brussels sprouts.

Many of these vegetables may seem unexciting, but a little thought and effort can turn a daily staid veg into a tasty treat for all the family.

As autumn arrives we often turn to recipes that not only warm us but also bring a sense of comfort, and today's recipe is the perfect autumnal dish.

It's my interpretation of a traditional casserole dish and is a fantastic-tasting British dish using the finest local ingredients.

Richard Phillips



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- Kent Butcher/Meat Producer of the Year**
Butcher or Farmer, selling or producing meat that has spent the majority of its life in Kent
- Best Kentish Beer**
Beer made from hops predominantly grown in Kent at a brewery based in Kent
- Best Kentish Wine**
Wine made from grapes predominantly grown in Kent at a vineyard based in Kent
- Best Kentish Cider or Perry**
Cider or Perry produced in Kent made predominantly from apples or pears grown in Kent
- Kent Juice Producer of the Year**
Producer of fruit juice made from fruit grown in Kent
- Kent Local Food Retailer of the Year**
Must demonstrate active local sourcing where and when products are available from within Kent
- Kent Seafood Retailer of the Year**
Must demonstrate active local sourcing where and when products are available from within Kent
- Kent Food Product of the Year**
Made from primary product that has spent the majority of its life in Kent and/or undergone a value added process over and above re-packaging or re-marketing
- Kent Food Producer of the Year**
Primary product must have spent the majority of its life in Kent and/or undergone a value added process over and above re-packaging or re-marketing
- Kent Restaurant of the Year**
Must actively use locally sourced products where and when available from within Kent and demonstrate this commitment in menus and marketing
- Kent Pub of the Year**
Must demonstrate active local sourcing of food and/or drink where and when products are available from within Kent
- Kent Farmers' Market of the Year**

**TASTE OF KENT
AWARDS
2009**

CAT.	PRODUCT	BUSINESS NAME	LOCATION
1			
2			
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4			
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9			
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12			

RULES OF VOTING:

Voting will open on 28th September 2009 and closes 3rd January 2010.

- Original voting forms only will be accepted (Photocopies will not be accepted under any circumstances.)
- Voting may take place in any number of categories – not all categories have to be completed.
- Produced in Kent Ltd reserves the right to remove duplicate or spoilt votes
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COMMENT

Drivers are sold down the river

MOTORISTS who spend hundreds of pounds every year at the Dartford Crossing toll booths could be forgiven for feeling victimised by successive governments.

It was bad enough continuing to have to pay to use a bridge that was paid for six years ago, yet they now face the threat of even higher charges after Gordon Brown announced plans to sell it into private hands.

The idea is a kick in the teeth for the environmentalists, politicians and road-users who have campaigned to do away with the tolls.

Mr Brown says the sell-off will raise billions for the public purse and help ease the UK out of recession, but try telling that to the owners of small firms facing ruinous higher charges.

They and the many residents whose lives have been blighted by traffic and pollution don't seem to have been spared a thought.

The crossing should have been the answer to motorists' dreams when it was built, yet it has turned into a money-spinning nightmare.

Ruffled feathers

FROM January it will become legal in certain situations to shoot or poison the ring-necked parakeet – otherwise known as the most annoying alarm clock in the world.

Its squawk has awoken many a Kent resident over the years and, strangely enough, rock legend Jimi Hendrix may be to blame.

Fortunately for the parakeet, being irritated will not be a good enough reason in itself for them to be culled.

OPINION:

For whom the toll smells

Proposed Dartford Crossing sell-off is a bridge too far for our discredited rulers, says Ukip MEP Nigel Farage



IN AN age of public cynicism about MPs and their lifestyles and in the midst of the deepest recession many have seen, the proposed sale of the Dartford Crossing can only serve to heighten the disgust at our professional political classes.

I became involved in the campaign to abolish the tolls in 2001 when it became clear that whatever happened, the Government would not relinquish such a valuable cash cow, regardless of earlier promises. I've heard all the excuses, from the absurd to the downright laughable. Most memorable was transport minister Stephen Ladyman's idea that they "prevented the bridge from being overloaded".

Dr Ladyman had not taken the trouble to discover that traffic waiting at the southbound tolls queued back over the bridge, turning it into a huge car park for at least six hours a day. The Government continues to pretend the charges remain to "ease congestion".

There are several things we can be certain of when the Government sells off the Dartford Crossing. First, it will ensure the crossing will never be free to use, and be a permanent reminder of why professional politicians should never be trusted. Duck houses and second homes pale into insignificance alongside the more than £70 million the Government extorts at Dartford annually.

Second, now we have created a fund to pay for repairs to the crossing in perpetuity, the Government will make us pay again. Having frittered away taxes propping up banks, the fund will not be handed to the new owners but will instead be kept by central government. Meaning we'll have to pay for the same thing all over again, this time to a private company.

Third, even if the Government changes before the sale is complete, it will go ahead anyway.

Anyone who thinks the Conservatives will honour earlier promises to remove the tolls obviously hasn't looked at their refusal to hold a referendum on the Lisbon Treaty if it's already ratified before they take power.

In this, as in almost everything else, there's no difference between New Labour and Blue Labour. The Government's arguments for keeping the tolls are nonsense. Its proposal to sell the crossing is a betrayal, not just of earlier promises but of the people of Dartford, who have to suffer the consequences. Dartford gen-

erally, and the Temple Hill estate particularly, suffers some of the worst air pollution in the country, caused almost exclusively by traffic queuing on the approach to the toll plaza.

Concentrations of carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide and particulate pollution all exceed maximum permitted levels, not just on a regular basis, but daily.

As the power outages in Kent showed a couple of months ago, when the tolls booths are closed and tolling suspended, traffic flows freely and pollution falls.

Naturally, the first area to receive emergency power generation during the five-day blackout was the toll plaza, which was operational within hours. The Government knows not to kill a goose that lays golden eggs.

Then there is the damage to the environment. In every other area, the Government uses taxes to reduce the supposed effects of climate change. Yet at Dartford we see a tax, in the form of tolls, which not only encourages the emission of tons of pollutants every day, but the collection of

the tax actually causes it. Whether you subscribe to the global warming theory or not, we can all agree that this pointless creation of pollution for monetary gain is unacceptable.

I can't tell you how to stop this iniquitous toll, or how to stop the proposed sale. I have protested, written letters, signed petitions and raised the issue in the European Parliament for eight years, without success. I have watched the Conservatives raise the issue every time an election is due, before dropping it as soon as the results are counted.

But I can tell you this: if we continue to send the same parties to Westminster, we cannot be surprised if nothing changes. It is up to all of us to ensure that this abuse of taxpayers' trust stops.

And we should protest – both physically and through the ballot box – until it does.

• Nigel Farage is a Ukip MEP for the South East, and the party's former leader. He lives in Bromley.

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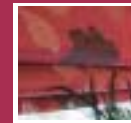
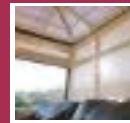
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By JANE JEWITT

IF THE days are fine and sunny, and the nights cold and still, we have a beautiful autumn season.

Cold nights assist in intensifying the colours of the dying foliage. In the eastern United States they are justly famous for beautiful autumn colours because of the climate there.

The brilliant colours of English autumns come from a variety of sources. Deciduous trees, berries and stems are our large-scale providers of colour.

Prunus sargentii is the earliest ornamental cherry tree to change into its autumn colours of red and orange. The foliage of the small tree *Amelanchier lamarckii* often starts to colour in late summer. It is one of my favourite trees. The margins of the leaves turn red and the veins yellow, and then slowly the whole leaf becomes dark red before it falls.

Liquidamber is a most stately tree. In the autumn the foliage takes on a magnificent array of colours from yellow, orange and red to the darkest purple. It is not a tree for a small garden, so look for it in one of your nearby parks or National Trust gardens.

The coloured stems of many *Cornus* and *Salix* are suitable for any garden. They look wonderful in great swathes in large gardens, but if your garden is small choose just one, and position it so that it catches the low rays of the winter sun. One of the best is *Cornus* 'Midwinter Fire', it is small and the stem colour is intense.

The reliable shrub, *Cotoneaster horizontalis* makes a brilliant display of scarlet at this time of year; it is hard to distinguish the leaves from the berries, they are both small and bright red. There are many types of *Cotoneaster*, from small shrub to medium-sized tree, deciduous and evergreen; and they can be a good choice for a shady part of the garden.

If you have an acid soil the autumn colours of many shrubs and trees will be intensified. The photo of *Fothergilla major* shows just how

Fall in love with the colours of autumn

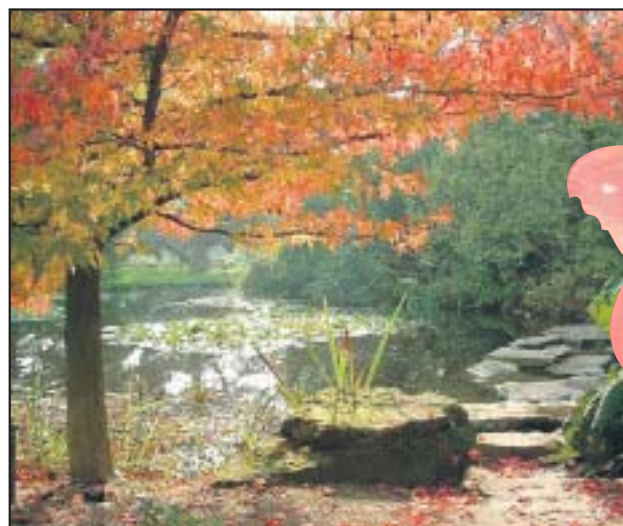
brilliant the autumn colours are. It is a lovely deciduous shrub that grows to 2 x 2 metres on a well-drained acid soil in a sunny position.

Berries are essential for birds and small mammals as food throughout the winter, as well as being very ornamental in our gardens. Birds will strip a tree of berries, just as they do

my raspberries, knowing exactly the right moment to choose for perfect ripeness. Birds take berries in a particular order, red is first, then orange, yellow, white and lastly, pink.

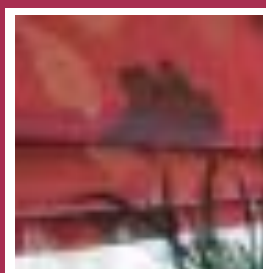
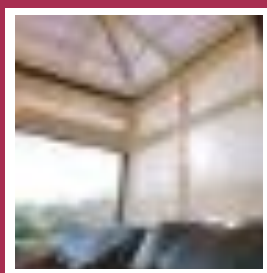
Every tree drops its leaves at a particular moment, they don't all drop at once, which can be good or bad news depending on the quanti-

ty you have to rake up. It also means that the colours of autumn go on and on for many weeks, so keep your eyes open and enjoy this wonderful and ever-changing display. It is quieter than fireworks, but equally as colourful and beautiful.



SEASONAL SHADES: *Liquidamber's* (left) foliage takes on an array of colours from yellow to the darkest purple; and (right) *Fothergilla*

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By **GABRIELLE FAGAN**

AFTER our disappointing summer, it's understandable we're relishing early autumn's sunny days and hoping they'll linger for as long as possible.

We're enjoying what's known as an 'Indian summer' – a spell of warm, hazy weather that can occur in September, October or even November.

But wishful thinking won't ward off winter's icy winds and storms forever, so it's time to find a lasting way of conjuring a warm atmosphere – by treating rooms to a dose of hot-house style this autumn.

Turn to a decor scheme inspired by India, with the embellished furniture and jewel-rich colours of its interiors perfectly in tune with our growing desire to banish yesterday's cool, bland room schemes.

And it's timely that a major new exhibition is celebrating the nation's rich decorative style and culture.

Maharaja: The Splendour of India's Royal Courts is on show at London's Victoria & Albert Museum from October 10 to January 17, and features stunning collections including paintings, gem-encrusted jewellery, saris and even an opulent throne.

Luckily, you don't

Home on the Raj

Be inspired by our surprising Indian summer and conjure the heat of the East with our selection of 'hot' homeware

need the wealth of those bygone rulers to create a contemporary interpretation of India's style as it's been embraced by high street stores and online companies, so there's an array of affordable treasures and gems which will help give homes an exotic glow.

You could simply feature one key ethnic-inspired piece, maybe a carved dark-wood side table, or add shim-

mering, bejewelled lamps, silky throws and a scattering of sparkling beaded cushions to transform a room into a decadent, sumptuous sanctuary.

Finish with a dash of spicy colour – reminiscent of a colourful

deep and vibrant orange, terracotta, red or – most contemporary (but only for the brave) – hot pink!

Alternatively, walls painted in soft whites or pastels are an ideal, simple backdrop if you're displaying richly-coloured accessories.

"In India, bright colour is treated as an essential component to the decorative scheme," says Judith Miller, who features a host of inspirational colour schemes in her beautifully illustrated book, *Country Colour* (Jacqui Small, £30).

She explains that just as precious jewels were used to decorate the Taj Mahal, so colour is used to radiate in an interior.

Her advice: "It's especially effective when used with bright saturated florals, fabrics with strong contrasting pattern and silks."

Hot buy: Iconic Sixties fashion designer Barbara Hulanicki's collection of decadent flock-embossed papers for Graham & Brown could have been devised for this style.

Particularly suitable is a hot pink floral Ophelia paper in Hollywood Cerise or a metallic Grape version featuring black flock flowers on a gold background. Papers cost £60 a roll.

Far east fabrics

Floaty fabrics in bright colours, often with

(Above) white metal cabinet, £130 from Not On The High Street; (middle) Laurence Llewelyn Bowen footstool, £50 from Matalan; (right) beaded lamp, £44.25 from QVC

Bollywood film set – on a wall and you might be able to put off turning on that heating for a while.

Summer's sultry days needn't be a distant memory if you choose from our feast of hot homeware.

Set the scene

Go truly authentic with bold wall colours characteristic of India, such as green,

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several contrasting shades used together, are a seductive way to dress windows or equally as effective as ultra-feminine hangings for a four-poster bed.

Fabrics such as those used for saris like Georgette (a blend of nylon or polyester) or chiffon in nylon or silk can simply be draped over curtain poles or used in layered panels.

Source from specialist fabric shops or markets, or from online companies such as www.indian-accessories.com.

Hot buy: Block out a depressing view of dark clouds and showers by making a blind or curtains with a dramatic black and fuchsia pink bloom fabric. Lydia fabric is £11.99 a metre from Dunelm Mill.

Furnish and flatter

Decorative, embellished furniture with intricate carvings, or pieces with a beaten metal finish are eminently suitable for a little palace that you can call your own.

Carved wooden furniture sits well in any space, and while your own throne might be hard to find, there are some bargains to be had.

An attractive Haveli nest of three carved tables with a sheesham wood veneer is £199 from Tesco Direct, or, if you're on a smaller budget, Dunelm Mill's white painted Mango wood cabinet, with elaborate carved door, is a snip at £49.99, as is its Filigree carved mirror, £39.99.

If you're completely won over by this style, Graham & Green has a beautiful range, sourced in India, of metal-covered furniture reminiscent of the palaces of Rajasthan, and a selection of hand-crafted inlay furniture.

These are investment buys – a floral embossed white metal chest has a price ticket of £975 and a Bronze finish coffee table costs £350.

And there's plenty to plunder at newly-launched company Niki

Jones whose range is already drawing compliments. Striking bone-inlay chests start from £435 and a black and white bone inlay Jaipur mirror costs £84.95.

Hot buys: A white metal cabinet with crystal handle, £130 from The Orchard at www.notonthehighstreet.com or an embroidered velvet footstool, £50 from Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen's collection at Matalan.

Capture an eastern glow

Lighting should be subtle, otherwise the glamorous, seductive feel of this look will be lost.

Ornate chandeliers and lamps with beaded shades and flickering candlelight make an ideal combination for illumination.

Laura Ashley's glorious lighting selection includes a deep pink Bryony glass pendant with glass fringing, £100, or a Bluma ball pendant, £175, glittering with suspended crystals.

Lamps on side-tables cast a soft

glow, and QVC has featured Eastern style with a beaded amber lampshade and Peacock embellished base, £44.25, and it also has three gold jewelled candles, £13.50.

Hot buy: A Champagne tiered pendant light, in silver and crystal, £175 from Bhs's Maison collection.

Bazaar accessories

One of the joys of this style is that one or two eye-catching accessories may be all that's needed to "transport" a room to warmer climes.

Build up the heat – and the look – gradually by sourcing items such as decorative glass handles to revamp a cupboard or door, embroidered cushions or jewel-coloured throws.

A vibrant Temple Jewels quilt and sham set, £54, and a set of six flocked glass jars, £23.25 from QVC, could be suitably exotic touches for a boudoir.

Pretty details, such as knobs that are as brightly coloured as sweets, can be found at John Lewis and its selection starts from £2.45.

Graham & Green's collection of variously coloured glass door handles are £18.95 each, while another good destination for Indian summer touches, Really Linda Barker, offers a set of three crystal knobs for £18.75 and it also has an unusual Indian-style table parasol, £29.95.

Capture the grace of the colo-

rial Raj by serving drinks on silver trays, £10 each from Bhs, or by holding an elegant tea party.

These two accessories could make an occasion special: jewelled teaspoons, £28 for a set of six from The Travelling Souk, and an Elephant shaped tea-cosy, £45, embroidered by Kashmiri craftsmen, from The Victoria and Albert museum shop.

Finish a scheme by displaying personal touches such as a Mango wood elephant-shaped photo frame or beaded Flower and Butterfly photo holders, both £12.50 each from The Natural Collection.

Hot buy: Marks & Spencer's aptly-named Indian Summer leaf-embroidered cushion, £35 in rich reds, blues, purple and golds on a brown background.

Maison chandelier, £175 from Bhs

Graham & Green glass door handles, £18.95 each; (Right) mango cabinet, £49.99 from Dunelm Mill



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A moving experience

➤ By **HANNAH STEPHENSON**

LATE autumn is a good time to move large shrubs and other plants, while they are dormant, to more suitable places or even into pots until you can decide where you want them to go.

The ones which are most easily moved are those with fibrous roots – masses of thin roots which don't go very deeply in to the soil. You can dig right underneath the root system and it doesn't matter if a few roots are broken, as there will be plenty of others left to take hold and become established.

Shrubs that are easy to move include camel-

lia, Mexican orange blossom (*Choisya ternata*), dogwood, broom, heather, forsythia, fuchsia, hebe, spiraea, rosemary, mock orange (*Philadelphus*), kerria and hydrangea.

Before you start, decide where you want the shrub to grow and dig the ground where you are going to plant, adding some bulky organic matter.

Dig a circular trench around the shrub with a radius of between 30 and 45cm (12-18in) depending on the size of the shrub and keep digging down until you reach the end of the roots. Then push the spade under the shrub and lever it gently to ease out the remaining roots. You may have to do the same on the other side and go round the shrub several times before it lifts out.

Once the shrub is completely loose, rock it forwards, away from you, and place a large piece of sacking or heavy duty polythene



MOVERS: Mexican orange blossom (above) and fuchsia (right) are easy shrubs to move

sheeting underneath it. Then rock the plant towards you and manoeuvre the sacking underneath it so that the shrub is in the centre of it. Tie the sacking tightly around the rootball and lift the whole thing out, before giving it a good water.

It's best to transfer the shrub straight away. Dig a hole slightly larger than the rootball and put the shrub in it, ensuring that it's at exactly the same level in the soil as it was before. If it's too low, put some more soil in the bottom of the hole. If it's too high, make the hole a bit deeper.

Once you have a perfect position, slide the sacking out from underneath the shrub and mix a handful of blood, fish and bonemeal in with some of the soil you've dug out, using it to fill in the hole and give the shrub a good soaking. Firm the plant in gently with your heel, to take up any air pockets.

Shrubs which are more difficult to move include buddleia, the smoke bush (*Cotinus coggygria*), berberis, weigela, lilac and flowering currant (*Ribes*).

Shrubs with tap roots, which grow very deep and have fewer roots, are more difficult to move as it's harder to dig them out and if you damage the roots there will be fewer to establish themselves in their new position.

If you are determined to move a prize shrub which has tap roots, dig a wide trench around it, filling it with organic matter and leave it for 12 months. That way it will produce new roots which grow out into the organic matter, so that it forms a new, stronger rootball which will compensate if you snap the tap root when you lift the shrub out.

Once you have replanted your shrub, keep it well watered until it has established itself and add a layer of organic mulch to protect it over the winter months.



DIG IT: Make sure you watch the root system when moving your prized shrubs

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Ayrton cares for the environment. The company manufactures in timber, principally sourcing FSC certified slow growing North European redwoods and offers comparable alternatives to hardwoods such as Accoya – if required. The company is a member of the Wooden Window Alliance (part of the British Woodworking Federation), whose members must meet independently audited quality standards and come with durability, performance and sustainability guarantees. www.ayrtonbespoke.com. Phone: 0208 877 8920.



Be a basket case with these eco-friendly lovelies

WHETHER you are just popping down to the local market for organic vegetables, or gathering wool for knitting a cosy throw or storing your recyclable paper – the Kikapu baskets come in handy. They are a practical size for shopping and loads of other uses and completely reusable – no more need for plastic bags. In fact they are the ultimate eco-friendly reusable bags.

Squashable, light, comfortable to carry and easy to stack, and they also look good. The price is just £18 for three including postage.

Baskets are a very traditional East African product and are used for carrying virtually everything from clothing and food to small animals. 'Kikapu' is pronounced 'key-car-poo'. The raw materials are hand harvested in East Africa from naturally growing plants – completely sustainable.

The baskets are hand-made in rural Africa and bought directly for a fair price – trade not aid.

Available from www.thetravelling-souk.com who will also give 2.6 per cent of the price to a charity.



Interior designer Helle Hylleberg answers readers' design dilemmas



Q I live in a Victorian terrace and have very little space for storage. I especially need ideas of where to store gloves and scarves for the winter. Can you help?

Natalie, Canterbury

A Putting any kind of furniture in the hallway would probably be impossible. But – here is a creative idea that is both trendy and cheap! Buy two or three letterboxes – go wild on colour if you like! – hang them up in a row in the hall and hey presto – storage for hats and scarves. Have fun!

General advice for hallways:

- Think of this space as your window to the world – this might make you tidy up a bit!
- This is probably the room in the house which would be most prone to clutter – shoes, coats, umbrellas, post, etc. When you choose storage, make sure that your needs are met with the right kind of furniture.
- Add colour – if not paint, then art on the walls or a colourful doormat.



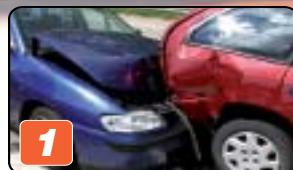
If you have any questions you'd like to ask Helle, email hylleberg@live.co.uk or post them, marked Homes & Gardens Q & A, to KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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TRIM: Elegant-looking spiral topiary, in Green Park, near Buckingham Palace, London

Create a sense of

While natural gardens and meadow plantings may have increased in popularity in the last few years, formal gardens still have a place in our fast-paced, chaotic world

By **HANNAH STEPHENSON**

THE desire to shape and square, to manipulate plants and space to attain order and create symmetry, is a subject explored by designer pals Diarmuid Gavin and Sir Terence Conran in their new book *Planting*, in which they share many of their planting secrets with enthusiasts.

"Humans love order and repetition. There is symmetry to it," Gavin explains. "They like the illusion of reflection – whether it is mirrors or still ponds."

"And they have an abiding desire to control outdoor space: to clean it and to level and decorate it with familiar lines and shapes."

While many formal gardens were designed to be viewed from a distance, to create grandeur by using geometric shapes, this vista cannot be easily transferred to suburban gardens because of their less even shapes and sizes.



PATH TO FORM: Formal garden with neatly trimmed hedges and hydrangeas

Aspects of formal gardens in the UK have been copied by many amateur gardeners on much smaller scales, achieving formal style with ferns or grasses, or simply by using just

one colour of flowers. "You can create your own sense of drama and theatre within the boundaries of the plot by laying out grids using ever-green shrubs," says Gavin.

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Possibly you own land or have somewhere in mind that you think could be used to develop for new build residential dwellings. John Childs is a director of a bespoke development company called Kentish Homes.Com Ltd, which is a registered house builder with the NHBC.

Why move house when you can extend or redevelop your property?

When you need extra living space an extension or loft conversion can be a cost effective and less stressful alternative to moving house. With the falls in property prices increasing numbers of people are extending their homes to meet their extra living space needs rather than moving.

There are endless reasons why you might need extra space in your home. Maybe you have a growing family and need an extra bedroom, playroom or family bathroom. An extra guest bedroom, shower room or annex for visitors or a family member? Maybe you are starting a business and need an office or studio. Or maybe general home improvement is forefront on the extension or redevelopment agenda and a larger kitchen, lounge or dining room would not only increase their overall usability but make an impressive impact too.

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symmetry

Some plants are particularly easy to manipulate and clip into shape year on year, including box, yew (*Taxus baccata*), privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*), juniper, holly and berberis.

"You can make little formal hedges that may be no more than 20cm high, or you can clip hornbeam or species of lime (*tilia*) into very unnatural but pillar or column-like structures," Gavin explains.

In smaller spaces, such as courtyards, many gardeners place some sort of ornament in the centre of the space, such as an aquatic feature like a small fountain or bowl of still water, or an architectural plant.

Containers can also create a much more formal feel to a small garden.

"A parallel row of containers can be introduced to reinforce the geometry of a scheme, guiding the eye to a focal highlight or in the direction of a stunning vista," Gavin explains.

"Pots of beautifully-trimmed evergreen shrubs or those brimming with cascading flowers can illuminate paved courtyards, as well as being used to enhance formal entrances or walkways.

"Ornate pots and those of aged stone suit a formal garden, while traditional terracotta is classic in any garden setting. Keep the different styles as limited as possible – a single style has the greatest impact."

Plants synonymous with formal gardens, including box and privet, create structure, shape and form in pots, while topiary specimens can be made to look the same through clipping – pyramids, spheres and columns are favourites.

Tall, slim containers can be used to line and define a patio area planted with box ball topiary to provide evergreen colour, contemporary planting and architectural emphasis.

Square pots filled with plantings of the same colour (white is always a good option) and again used in repetition can bring structure to a softer, tree-filled garden.

"Large containers can become the main focal points in a formal setting. They are wonderful as structural features at the bottom of a garden and look superb if set on a raised terrace for a feeling of grandeur, defining the boundary and ownership of the land," says Gavin. "Architectural plants best serve this purpose."



CONCEPTS: Diarmuid Gavin and Sir Terence Conran who have written a new book

You can, however, add much colour to your formal garden through container plants.

"Pelargoniums, wallflowers and matched mixed planting can be used to inject a burst of colour. Big blowsy shrubs such as hydrangeas, roses and lilacs look wonderful in a formal garden," says Gavin.

"Grow them so they are approximately the same shape and size, and position single species in repetition to restore the sense of control that is easy on the eye and definitive of formal garden design."

• *Planting by Diarmuid Gavin & Terence Conran, is published in hard-back by Conran Octopus, priced £40.*



SYMMETRICAL: (Left) row of containers in formal garden; and (right) row of terracotta pots

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October on the plot

MULCHING IN THE VEG PATCH

Applying a mulch to the veg patch, or areas of it, simply means using a material to cover the top layer of soil. This may be done for a number of reasons with both organic (natural) and inorganic (man-made) 'mulches'.

Organic mulches include farmyard manure (FYM), leaf mould, compost, grass mowings, or spent soil from pots and containers.

These are substances which to a greater or lesser degree (and FYM is tops in this department) bulk-up and feed the soil. They all encourage soil life, especially earthworms.

These humble creatures are an absolutely essential component of healthy soil, playing a crucial role incorporating and cycling matter, as well as helping drainage via their extensive and labyrinthine tunnels.

An organic mulch may be used to keep the soil warm in winter but cool in summer; prevent weeds from germinating by robbing them of the light, or conserve moisture if flopped down around a growing crop following a good soaking.

Newspaper and cardboard are considered as organic because they will rot down readily. They are especially useful when laid down underneath one of the mulches already mentioned, as a protective winter blanket.

'Living mulches' comprise growing a green manure to cover bare soil in gaps between cropping, or to protect the growing medium over winter from the erosive powers of wind and rain (not to be underestimated), especially on a slope.

Legumes (the pea and bean family) such as clovers, lucerne (alfalfa) and field beans do a great job. They also fix atmospheric nitrogen in root nodules which is usefully exploited by the



MULCHING: Now is the time to mulch your patch using either organic means, ie a 'green' manure (left); or controlling weeds by using non-organic means like an old carpet

next batch of veggies grown in the area. These, and others such as phacelia, also add a goodly supply of organic matter to soils when they are cut down and turned-in before sowing.

Non-organic mulches include black plastic sheeting which is often left in place for a year or more to kill persistent weeds such as couch-grass or dock by totally preventing light penetration. Land can be still be



worked with this sheeting in place by planting seedlings (or potato tubers) through carefully cut slits. Old carpet is another favourite among gardeners, as a light-excluding mulch used to suppress weeds and create bare soil without strenuous digging.

• 'On The Plot With Dirty Nails: a practical guide to fruit and vegetable gardening in words and pictures' by Joe Hashman (ISBN 9781905862320) is available now, rrp £12.99, from bookstores and Amazon.

Dirty Nails book giveaway

ON the Plot with Dirty Nails is the new book by gardener, naturalist, and Homes and Gardens columnist, Joe Hashman.

Beautifully presented using simple step-by-step colour photographs, Hashman holds your hand through the gardening year, detailing the weekly jobs to do on the allotment and in the greenhouse to ensure healthy crops for every season.

We have six copies to give away. To enter, simply send your name, address, and daytime telephone number on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), to Dirty Nails Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is October 27, 2009.

• On the Plot with 'Dirty Nails' Joe Hashman. Spring Hill an Imprint of How to Books Ltd. ISBN: 978-1-905862-32-0. Available at all good bookstores priced at £12.99. Orders: 01476 541080. www.howtobooks.co.uk.



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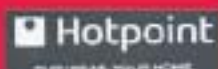
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Soap just won't wash

Am I the only one incensed to read that cash-strapped Kent County Council has spent £1.6 million creating KentTV, including a 10-part soap called Hollywood?

Since when did it become a council's remit to produce TV programmes?

At a time when KCC is suffering from the Icelandic investments debacle, when its income is falling due to businesses closing and when Tory leader David Cameron wants to roll back the State, it's highly inappropriate that ratepayers' money is spent in this way. I hope others join me in writing to KCC leader Paul Carter (paul.carter@kent.gov.uk) to request that this misuse of our money is closed down immediately.

Mark Dickerson, Whitstable

Power cut payments

Many readers will recall the serious power cut in and around Dartford in July and will have received a letter from EDF at the time advising that, although this incident was outside the scope of the electricity regulations, EDF was nonetheless offering a goodwill payment of £50 to those without electricity for 24 hours or more.

Customers were invited to apply for this payment by the October 31. If anyone has not yet applied, I urge them to do so without delay. However, the judgement as to whether this incident fell within the regulations or not is for energy regulator Ofgem to make, not EDF.

Ofgem is investigating the matter and expects to publish a decision at the end of October, or early in November.

If Ofgem decides against EDF, then payments of £50 for the first 18 hours without electricity (£100 for businesses) plus £25 for each successive 12-hour period will be payable.

The catch is that to qualify for these possible payments customers have to apply to

Plane-speaking Cameron?

So it looks as if Sheerness will be listening to the roar of aeroplanes after all, even though Tory leader David Cameron says no.

If this is the case and no truly means no, can someone explain why London Mayor and fellow Tory Boris Johnson has been chatting to sheikhs, China and other countries to fund it?

Yes, at the moment Mr Cameron may not be in favour, but he's not in power and doesn't want to upset the voters of Kent.

But make no mistake, if the Tories do win the next general election, his mind will be changed and Sheerness will only find out about it when the builders move in. By then it will be too late, with the deal already signed and sealed.

Voters must keep this in mind when they finally go to the polls.

After all, it's your peace and quiet that's going to be shattered – certainly not David Cameron's or Boris Johnson's.

Jennifer May, Gravesend

EDF within three months of their supply being reinstated. The address to write to is: EDF Energy Networks, Dartford Payments Team, Fore Hamlet, Ipswich, IP3 8AA.

You can find out more by visiting www.tinyurl.com/edf-power/.

Rosanna Currans, Dartford

A strange democracy

Labour's parliamentary candidate for Folkestone and Hythe, Donald Worsley, has learnt the politician's hypocritical art very early in his career.

He berates Tory leader David Cameron for not being forthcoming on his policy towards the European Union, while his party promised a referendum three times – and reneged three times.

It's no surprise MPs dodge any referendum, as the EU accounts haven't been signed off

for 13 years, being a commissioner guarantees millionaire status and all the EU offices and officials in them have been put above the law.

For our greedy expenses scandal MPs it must seem like manna from heaven – and no comeback.

There's something sick about a so-called democracy that refuses its electorate a vote on a major issue and something very corrupt and wrong about an organisation that either needs to bribe its members to vote as they require, or make them vote until they give the right answer. Hitler would have been proud of them. They've achieved what he couldn't, without a shot being fired.

Phil Granger, West Malling

Hospital parking victory

I was delighted with the Health Secretary's recent announcement that car parking

charges at NHS hospitals are to be stopped.

My postbag, telephone calls and inbox showed that this was something that angered and inconvenienced patients in this constituency, and I shared their feelings on this.

For the last seven years I have been campaigning for this very result and I am pleased it has come at last.

We can't do it overnight. But, over the next three years, as we can afford it, the Government aims to phase out car parking charges for in-patients, giving each a permit for the length of their stay which family and friends can use.

Derek Wyatt MP, Sittingbourne and Sheppey

More green, less blue

David Cameron's speech at the Conservative conference was a disappointment for green groups.

Since becoming party leader, Mr Cameron has improved his party's electoral prospects by claiming a commitment to tackle climate change – going green by voting blue.

But during his speech in Manchester the environment barely featured in his vision for Britain. The Conservatives do not yet have the policies to rise to the challenge of climate change. This close to a general election, they should have.

Protecting our environment and building a green economy should be a priority. Insulating homes and developing clean, secure energy supplies will help create new green jobs and industries and should have been at the heart of Mr Cameron's vision for our recession-hit economy.

New low-carbon industries and investors urgently need confidence that a Conservative government would prioritise the development of a green economy, but this speech will not have given it to them.

*Stuart Cox, co-ordinator,
East Kent Friends of the Earth, Deal*

Letters continue on page 48

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

GOSFORD

Owen and Anita Gosford (formerly Hendy) wish to announce the arrival of our precious daughter, Annabel Lauren on the 5th October 2009.

HORTON

Michael Edward born on 8th October 2009, weighing 6lbs 8oz. Son to Michael and Corrina in Maidstone.

IZZARD

Heather and Simon celebrate the birth of their daughter Jasmine Isis Izzard on 25th September 2009.

JUMNOODOO

Darren, Paula and Zachary are proud to announce the birth of Freya Ann Jumnoodo on 27th September 2009.

NETHERCOTT

Oliver Michael born on 25th September 2009 weighing 9lbs 13ozs. Son to Lee and Naomi and brother to Grace.

OWENS

Simon and Leanne of Herne Bay are overjoyed

to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful son, Riley Stephen, on 22nd September at 14.07 pm weighing 8lb 3oz.

PHULL

Jaswinder and Jotan would like to announce the birth of their Granddaughter Anisha on 2nd October 2009 weighing 6lb 6oz.

DEATHS

BLTYHE

Ethel Blythe of Hartley passed away peacefully at Bramblings Care Home aged 93 years on 8th October 2009. Will be sadly missed by her daughter Brenda, grandchildren and friends. Funeral enquiries to Horlocks Funeral Services at Longfield.

EBDON

In loving memory of John (Walter) Ebdon, a very special Husband, Dad and Granddad. Taken from our lives 13th October 2009. Forever in our hearts. God Bless.

FRANKLIN

Alfred Thomas Franklin on 6th October 2009, aged 94. Dearly loved husband, father and grandfather who will be sadly missed. Funeral service on 27th October at Vinters Park Crematorium at 2pm. Family flowers only.

GROGAN

It is with great regret that we announce the passing of Tom Grogan beloved husband and father and grandfather. Tom passed away at home on the 9th October 2009 with his family round him. We all wish him a speedy journey to the big DoJo in the sky. Funeral enquiries to Horlocks of Northfleet 01474 352159. Family flowers only. Donations to Eleanor Lions Hospice.

KING

Malcolm Archibald King known to all as Pete King passed away on the 9th October 2009 following a short illness. He will be sadly missed by his wife Iris, his 3 sons and 3 daughter in laws,

10 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Also his extended family and friends. Funeral at Medway Crematorium on the 23rd October at 2.00pm. Family flowers only donations to Lions Hospice please.

MANNING

George Edward Manning, much loved husband, father and grandfather, died peacefully on 8th October 2009 in The Heart of Kent Hospice.

NICHOLS

We are sad to announce that Lesley Ann Nichols (nee Ashdown and originally of Swanley) passed away at home following an 11 month battle with illness. She will be very sadly missed by Tom, Emma, Rose and Martin. All friends and extended family including Billy, Trevor, Eddie, Barley and Chilli. Enquiries to Doves of Swanley.

SAUNDERS

Lilian Rose Saunders passed away peacefully on 6th October 2009 at the Abbey Court Nursing Home.

www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/, or telephone 01737 365018, to find out more. Thank you.

Lucy Speed, actress, on behalf of the Children's Trust

Don't forget survivors

On behalf of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), I would like to thank you readers for their generosity towards the people of Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam who were hit by a series of disasters within a single terrible week.

Since the launch of the appeal for urgent aid, the public have given more than £3 million, showing their steadfast support to the hundreds of thousands of people affected by the earthquakes, typhoons, floods and landslides. This kind of generosity is heartening, especially in light of financial uncertainties facing so many in the UK.

In the affected countries we have seen remarkable acts of bravery as people attempt to save themselves, their family and friends.

Survivors are now receiving support from DEC member agencies which, using the money raised, are helping meet the most urgent needs of hundreds of thousands of people for food, shelter and medical care. As governments clear the roads making access easier for us we will continue to respond to the basic, emergency needs of those we reach. But the battle for survival continues over the coming months as those affected face the task of rebuilding their lives.

We must be on hand to support this process of replanting crops, replacing farm animals and repairing homes, schools and medical centres.

The world's attentions will inevitably turn elsewhere, but we remain dependant on the generosity of the public to ensure that people who have survived terrible disasters do not face further, entirely avoidable, suffering. Please keep up your support by giving at www.dec.org.uk or by calling 0370 60 60 900.

Brendan Gormley, chief executive, Disasters Emergency Committee

Embracing to internet

On November 13, Age Concern and Help the Aged's search for an Internet Champion, supported by BT, draws to a close.

We have experienced an overwhelming response from people whose lives have been transformed by technology. However there's still time for anyone 55 and over who has actively embraced the internet to consider applying.

More than 10 million people have never used the internet, of which 6.4 million are over the age of 65. Worryingly, older people also represent 39 per cent of the four million adults in the UK who are both socially and digitally excluded.

Often it's the people facing the toughest times who have the most to gain from what the internet has to offer. From the ability to keep in contact with friends and family, to the cost savings that can be made by shopping online, everyone has the right to the social and economic opportunities the web has to offer.

The internet is rapidly becoming a tool for everyday life and we hope by telling their story, the successful Internet Champion will act as an ambassador for older people and inspire them to experience the benefits of the internet for themselves.

For more information on the search, or for information about how you can get online, please call 0208 765 7200 or visit www.ageconcern.org.uk/it.

Martha Lane-Fox, champion for digital inclusion

Keep pace with WCRF

Have any readers been lucky enough to secure a place in the 2010 Virgin London Marathon through the public ballot?

World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) is appealing to those who have secured their own place to consider fund-raising for us.

It's easy to join Team WCRF and in return we offer full support with training and nutritional advice, an essential runner's kit

containing your unique WCRF vest and pedometer, a fund-raising pack and your own personalised online sponsorship page.

WCRF also offers a pasta party the day before the race and a post-race reception with a free massage and shower to soothe away aches and pains. Scientists estimate that about a third of the most common cancers could be prevented by following a healthy diet, being physically active and maintaining a healthy weight.

So not only will taking part in the Virgin London Marathon help you get into the kind of habits that can reduce your own cancer risk, but the money raised will help us continue to fund our research and education programmes on cancer prevention.

If you are interested in running for us, visit www.wcrf-uk.org/events or call 0207 343 4200.

Natalie Tarrant, events manager, WCRF

Beat the winter chill

Making sure older people receive the information and advice they need to stay warm and well in the winter months is a vital part of the work of Age Concern and Help the Aged.

With many older people forced to cut back on food shopping, or live in just one heated room of their house to save on fuel bills, it is vital older people take steps now to ensure they don't get caught out by the cold this winter.

That's why we've teamed up with British Gas to produce an information pack, called Staying Warm in Winter, available free to older people from this month onwards. The pack will offer essential advice on staying warm, keeping up with heating bills and tips on insulation, as well as a thermometer to help monitor how warm your home is.

Simple measures such as switching to low-energy lightbulbs and ensuring your water tank is properly insulated can have a big impact on energy and fuel bills.

It's also crucial that older people find out if they can apply for benefits this winter. Council tax benefit, pensions credit and the winter fuel payment are just a few of the entitlements available.

I urge anyone who is concerned about weathering the winter to call 0800 1692 081 and order one of our free packs to find out what support is on offer.

Mervyn Kohler, special adviser, Age Concern and Help the Aged

Big-hearted donations

I am writing to thank you and your readers for all of the support British Heart Foundation (BHF) Shops received as part of The BIG Donation – the UK's biggest ever stock appeal.

In September, BHF Shops launched the appeal in a bid to raise 350,000 bags of good quality stock, the equivalent of £7 million in donations in 30 days.

To our delight, we have been overwhelmed with support. Thousands of people, including celebrities such as Alan Carr and Jonathan Ross, joined together to help replenish stock in BHF Shops.

The appeal proved such a success that more than 360,000 bags of unwanted items have been donated nationwide – with some supporters having donated clothes made by the fashion world's most exclusive names. These items are being sold on the BHF eBay auction site at bhf.org.uk/eBay from 8pm on 8 to 18 October.

BHF Shops need your continued support. Over the last year, we have seen a 20 per cent drop in donations, despite being busier than ever.

Stock really is the lifeblood of our shops. Without it, we cannot survive and continue to generate millions of pounds towards the fight against heart disease, the UK's single biggest killer.

It's not too late for readers to bag a designer bargain at our auction and we urge everyone to continue to donate the books they're not going to read, or the clothes they'll no longer wear to a BHF Shop, or book a free online collection for furniture and electrical items at bhf.org.uk/shops.

Diane Locke, acting chief executive, BHF Shops

Letters continued from page 47

We're lagging behind

Pensioners are under serious threat of even higher energy prices according to regulator, Ofgem.

Typical bills could rise from over £1,000 per household to over £2,000 to meet needs for investment.

Pensioners and all others on low, fixed incomes are very vulnerable to increased energy prices. Years of under-investment mean the UK is behind virtually all other countries in Europe in relation to its production of electricity from renewable sources.

And our fuel poverty record is almost uniquely bad among industrialised countries.

About 30,000 people die of the cold each year in the UK – 800-900 of them in Kent and Medway. And yet the Government does not have a programme to ensure all housing is made energy efficient. The nuclear industry has admitted it cannot build new power stations without Government money, and the dream of a revived coal industry effectively died with the postponement of Kingsnorth due to uncertainties about factors such as future

carbon costs and emissions trading rules.

So now the Government has no choice but to fully embrace a future based on energy efficiency and renewables.

The good news is that renewable energy obtained more investment globally in 2008 than fossil fuels, for the first time ever.

Efforts to bring both homes and empty commercial properties back into use in Kent and Medway can mean more housing and better energy efficiency.

But our local councils need the resources to ensure all homes are properly insulated, as a top priority.

Steve Dawe, Kent Green Party, Tonbridge

Trust's running total

I would like to appeal to any readers who have secured their own place in the recent ballot for the 2010 Virgin London Marathon, to consider running for the Children's Trust.

This national charity provides specialist care for some of the UK's most severely disabled children. Joining the trust's team will be a great way to enjoy the world-famous event, with enthusiastic supporters cheering you along the route.



LUCY SPEED

where experts share their knowledge for preparation and nutrition.

It is a great opportunity for runners to help make a difference to the lives of disabled children, including children with acquired brain injuries, who receive care, education and therapy at the trust. Money raised from runners' sponsorship in the Virgin London Marathon will help the charity to help more children.

Please make a difference. I urge you to sign up now and help the Children's Trust make 2010 a memorable year. By joining the team, you will be helping us to reach out to even more children across the country. Visit

Being part of the team is great fun and a huge inspiration, as I experienced myself when I ran the Marathon this year. The Children's Trust provides help and guidance throughout the months leading up to the Marathon, with training days and workshops

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If you would like to hear more about this opportunity please contact Keziah Cunningham on 01303 814500 or email: ceo@kentcf.org.uk

Since 2001, Kent Community Foundation has distributed over £10 million in over 4,500 grants to voluntary groups, charities, organisations and individuals benefiting literally thousands of individuals across Kent. This has been made possible by the generosity and support of a growing number of private and corporate Fund-Holders and Foundation Members who have recognised the benefits of giving through Kent Community Foundation.

Patron: Allan Willett Cmg, Lord Lieutenant Of Kent

Chairman: Peter Hardy

The 245% increase is based on a net personal donation by a higher rate tax payer (40%) and matched by Government's Office of the Third Sector Grassroots Endowment Match Challenge.

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By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

TWO Kent-based organisations were recognised for their commitment to training by winning the regional heats of the National Training Awards.

Organised by UK Skills on behalf of the Department for Business, Skills and Innovation, the awards celebrate those who have achieved "really outstanding business and personal success" through investment in training.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service and the Sevenoaks-based care agency Active Assistance picked up two of the three prizes on offer, beating 17 other organisations in the process.

Thanet council and The Avenues Trust special needs service in Sidcup also made the regional finals.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service was honoured for its work over the last four years in becoming a centre of excellence for incident command training. A course introduced in



WELL DONE: Representing Active Assistance were Andrew Allan, Leila David, Sharon Davis, Joanne Harris, Jane Jordan, Amanda Pettitt, Jodi Thackray and Meridian Tonight presenter Fred Dineage

April, 2006, has led to a dramatic decrease in injuries suffered by on-duty firefighters in the county.

Head of learning Paul Flaherty said: "The development of our incident command training programme has put us well ahead of any other UK fire service in terms of course design, accreditation, assessment and validity. We are seen as the regional centre of excellence for incident command, and increasingly as the national lead."

Active Assistance is training its workers to support people with spinal cord injuries and help them to live independently.

HR manager Jane Jordan said: "Traditionally the relationship between an agency employer and its workers has been one where no additional benefits have been applied."

"By introducing a career, pay and reward structure, we have shown it is possible to dispel these assumptions and create an environment where the agency workers feel valued, rewarded and motivated."

The regional winners of the National Training Awards were announced at a ceremony in Cophthorne, West Sussex.

Meridian Tonight presenter Fred Dineage dished out the prizes.

Developing your staff

BUSINESSES across Kent have been invited to attend a seminar about training and qualifications.

The event in Wiltshire on Tuesday, October 27, has been arranged by Lantra – the sector skills council for environmental

and land-based industries.

Development manager for qualifications Liz Pridgeon said: "The event will improve businesses' understanding of training and qualifications development, and show how they can contribute to the future

success of industry through creating a supply of people with the right skills to become a part of tomorrow's workforce."

Call Avril James on 02476 858430 for more information and to book a place on the seminar.

Use centre resources to find a job

UNEMPLOYED people in Shepway are being offered help and training to get back to work, at the Romney Resource Centre in New Romney.

The centre in Mountfield Road allows job-seekers to search for employment online as well as receive careers advice and retraining.

Managing director Edna Delaney said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for people to have an individualised free package of support to enable them to access work and education in a supportive environment in New Romney."

Call 01797 367455 for more information.



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SITE SUPERVISOR

You will be responsible for overseeing installations of PVCu and aluminium products on refurbishment and new build contracts across the South of England. This role involves arranging and taking deliveries, liaising with Constructors, RLO's and the public, organising the workforce and inspecting completed works for handovers. Attention to detail, enthusiasm and organisation skills are important. Experience is preferred but is not essential.

NVQ training will be provided as will a company car, pension and attractive salary package (negotiable depending on experience).

Please apply by CV and covering letter to the Contracts Department at
140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP
or email: ron@piperwindows.co.uk



We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.

HMT Care

HMT Care is dedicated to the care of people diagnosed within the spectrum of neuro-disability, particularly HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE. We provide an holistic and person-centred approach to care and require dedicated and committed staff to work with us.

Duties will include personal care and day-to-day assistance and support of residents.

A competitive salary, promotion prospects, accredited specialist training, together with NVQ opportunities, is our commitment to you.

Previous experience and qualifications are an advantage, but are not essential. Starting salary £6.35 - £6.98 per hour

Day and night staff positions are available on full - time and part - time basis. Successful applicants are required to provide an enhanced disclosure

To request an application form and information
please call Rachel Shales on 01227 373586
weekdays between 10am and 4pm



Tel No: 01227 373586

Fax No. 01227 749115

Telesales Executive



We have an exciting opportunity for you to join our Multi Media business which includes the award winning Kent on Saturday and Kent on Sunday newspapers.

If you are highly driven, confident, a self motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, in our fast paced and fun telesales department, then apply.

You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities. Due to location, you need to have your own transport and a proven track record in sales is preferable.

We offer:

- Good basic salary
- Performance and revenue related bonuses
- Five weeks holiday a year

Apply in writing to:
Tracy Morgan, Telesales Manager,
KOS Media Ltd, Apple Barn, Hythe Road,
Smeeth, Ashford, Kent or email
tracy.morgan@kosmedia.co.uk



Award Winning Company

KOS Media | Apple Barn | Hythe Road | Smeeth | Ashford | Kent | TN25 6SR
www.kentnews.co.uk | www.jobsforkent.co.uk | www.yourkentv.co.uk



**ANCHOR BAY
CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS LIMITED**
Centurion Business Park, Unit B,
Centurion Way, Erith DA18 4AF

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ANCHOR BAY ARE A LEADING INDEPENDENT SUPPLIER FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND WE ARE CURRENTLY RECRUITING FOR IMMEDIATE START AT OUR HEAD OFFICE / WAREHOUSE IN CENTURION WAY ERITH.

WAREHOUSE MANAGER

Experienced warehouse Manager required to manage multiple warehouse picking staff, production line staff, Multi drop drivers and must be trained in Health & Safety. MUST BE EXPERIENCED

WAREHOUSE OPERATIVES

Must be fork lift trained and have warehouse picking experience.

Excellent rates of pay and long term future for the right candidate.

Please Call Faye Webb on 0208 320 3896 for immediate interview.



YOUR MOVE

Career Opportunities Full-time Estate Agency & Lettings Staff Required

Following a successful 2009 we have a number of new positions available from Sales and Lettings Consultants to Senior Consultants / Valuers. These positions are located in the Mid Kent Region.

So if you looking to start a new career or even embark on a career change, this could be your opportunity.

Your Move is a progressive, people focussed company dedicated to achieving the highest levels of customer service. We are looking for like minded candidates who are highly driven, self motivated, enthusiastic and ambitious. Experience within the industry is an advantage, although full training will be provided. The positions are diverse incorporating residential property sales and lettings and the successful candidates will have career prospects. A full driving licence is required.

Candidates wishing to apply should write or e-mail enclosing full CV with contact details to:
Oliver Blake - Area Director
Your Move, 93 Commercial Road
Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6DS
E-mail Oliver.blake2@your-move.co.uk

BeneCare Children's Services

RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS FOR CHILDREN'S HOME

**SALARY RANGE £11620
(Trainee Grade) to £24,000 pa.
Plus Increments and allowances**

We are looking for Residential support workers at all levels- including Deputy Managers to complement our existing team and to build a second team for our new home.

The work is challenging, rewarding, and important. You will be joining a team of experienced professionals dedicated to providing therapeutic care within a homely and nurturing environment for our children and young people.

To find out more please contact our Manager Lyn Gibbs on 01227 369089 or visit our website to download an application form: www.benecareltd.co.uk

For informal discussion and advice on other related opportunities please contact Steve Richmond, Director on 07710 145802 or 01892 740886

KOS Media is a highly successful newspaper publisher within Kent, that has received many awards from the newspaper industry.

We now have vacancies in our Production Department for experienced

Mac Operators

We are looking for experienced, confident and self-motivated team players, preferably with newspaper experience, who are seeking to further their career within the industry.

The individual must have relevant Mac experience, including knowledge of Quark, Photoshop and Illustrator.

The position involves creating visuals for customers, ad setting, including property and motors, creating classified sections and make-up of pages to be sent to our printers.

The candidate should be able to work under pressure, meet strict deadlines and be eager to work within a team environment to ensure the smooth operation of our fast-paced production department.

Hours will include a Saturday or Sunday.

Previous applicants need not apply.

To apply, send a CV and covering letter to:
**Personnel, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road
Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SR
or email: personnel@kosmedia.co.uk**

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Kings Hill
Kent
ME19 4YU
01732 523442

email:
info@bayada.co.uk
www.bayada.co.uk



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TRUE GRIP DRIVER TRAINING LTD (Near Canterbury) require a General Assistant

£6.00 ph

Saturday and Sunday 8am to 5pm (approx) and some weekdays

For more information please call 01227 363 323
or email kevin.cawood@truegripoffroad.co.uk

Senior Care Assistant

Required To work in Faversham

NVQ3 or working towards would be an advantage. Duties will include supervise shift and carry out all tasks with assistance provided, necessary to run a family type care home. To promote healthcare and well being of the residence. Liaise with doctors, care managers and other professional colleagues as required and to supervise all staff in the performance of their duties. Maintenance of all records as instructed from time to time to assist with healthcare arrangements for residence and exercise control and admin of all medication.

**For further details please tel. 01795 532629
between 10am to 4pm.**

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT SHEPWAY DISTRICT COUNCIL

OPERATIONS OFFICER

PROPERTY SERVICES

£25,620 - £30,210 + Car Allowance

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a surveyor with a broad knowledge of surveying and property management.

For more details and an application pack, download at
www.shepway.gov.uk or email jobs@shepway.gov.uk, alternatively
call our 24 hour answer phone service on 01303 853481.

Closing date for completed applications is
Friday 6 November 2009

Shepway District Council
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue
Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY
Tel: 01393 853000
www.shepway.gov.uk

Folkestone
Hythe & Romney Marsh
Shepway District Council



Shepway District Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of race, colour, age, sex or disability.

Children's Support Worker – Sunlight Project

£21,306 - £27,573 + ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UPTO £1,170

MATERNITY COVER FOR SIX MONTHS - 37 HOURS PER WEEK
BASED IN CANTERBURY COVERING THE SWALE AREA

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

KCA Young Persons' Services provide specialist substance misuse help for children, young people, their families and carers. The Sunlight Project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund, offers support to children from substance misusing families in Swale, Dover and Thanet.

We require a support worker to deliver our group work programmes aimed at 7 – 13 year old children who are affected by someone else's misuse of substances. The groups promote emotional and psychological well-being through structured sessions. The project works closely with Children's Social Services, schools and other children's services.

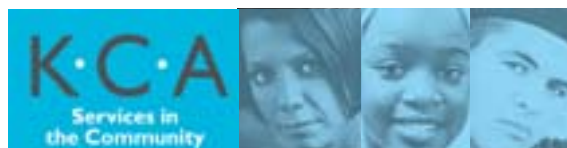
You will need experience of working with children and delivering group work interventions. Ideally you will also have a sound knowledge of substance misuse issues.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from
www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 611.

Closing date: 30 October 2009. Interview date: 10 November 2009.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.
Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk





Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

KOSMEDIA

Telephone: 01303 817040

Fax: 01303 817004

 Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk

 Online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk


Hugh Christie Technology College

 White Cottage Road
Tonbridge, Kent TN10 4PU

Examinations Administrator

Required immediately, 20 hours per week, term-time and results days only. To work alongside the Examinations Manager and assist with the administration of all examinations within the centre. Invigilation duties will be required.

Salary range scale A £13,291-£16,218 (FTE) pro-rata.

Invigilation Staff

Casual staff required for a minimum of 40 hours per annum invigilation work. Need in particular to be available January, May & June. Salary negotiable.

More information at www.hughchristie.kent.sch.uk

Alternatively contact Jenny Rutherford on
01732 353544 ext.240.

Closing date 30th October 2009

Teachers Needed Primary, Secondary and SEN.

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Thinking of Returning to Teaching?

If you are a qualified teacher and thinking of resuming your career after a break, Kent County Council is running Return to Teaching courses early 2010 at Canterbury High School, designed to enable you to make a successful return to the classroom.

You are invited to attend our Open Morning on 12th November 2009 at 10:00 at the Ashford Holiday Inn, Central, Canterbury Road Ashford, TN25 8QQ

Interviews will be held on 26th November at the same venue from 09:00.

For more information please phone Rajmund Brent
on 01622 203800 or email him at
rajmund.brent@kent.gov.uk

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www.education-sense.com

west kent
college

At West Kent College, our goal is to provide an exceptional learning experience for every student - and now we need a committed individual to help us achieve that. In return, you can look forward to a great future with one of the most successful colleges in the south east region. You will find a genuinely open and supportive environment, as well as excellent training and development from this Investor in People organisation.

Part-Time Dyslexia and Specific Needs Tutor

£11,880 - £16,333
+ excellent benefits

We are determined to provide the very highest levels of support to students with specific learning difficulties. Our excellent track record speaks for itself - and now we are taking it further. Our goal is to improve inclusion and deliver best practice as we raise the aspirations and achievements of every learner.

If you share our ambitions, this exciting role could be perfect for you. As well as assessing and supporting students across all curriculum areas, you will establish student support plans and contribute to diagnostic screening for Dyslexia.

With a recognised SpLD teaching qualification, you should bring proven experience of working with learners who have specific learning difficulties including Dyslexia, Aspergers, Dyspraxia and Speech and Language Disorder.

In return, there is an excellent range of benefits including generous annual leave, final salary pension, flexible working options, private health plan, on-site nursery and more. Previous applicants need not apply.

To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online,
visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email
hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk Please quote ref: KOS11

Closing date: 12 noon Thursday 22 October 2009



THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL

(A Foundation Technology College)

Arethusa Rd, Rochester, Kent ME1 2UW Headteacher: Mr P Jackson, BSc

Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385

Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk Website: www.thomasaveling.co.uk/jobs

Teaching Assistant - inclusion project

Part Time term time only (13 hours per week);

Friday 7 hours each week plus additional day (tba) of 6 hours

Salary: NJC Scale D2 point 12 - Point 21 (presently £15,039 - £19,126) pro-rata

Start date: November 2009

An opportunity has arisen for a pro-active, energetic and robust but patient individual to join the associate staff at this popular secondary school.

This is a challenging but rewarding opportunity to work with vulnerable students on an innovative inclusion project that involves student participation in a range of sporting activities and community projects away from the school site in order to assist them re-focus and improve attainment levels. This will take place on Friday of each week.

In addition to this one further day to be agreed will be spent on site supporting students within the classroom environment.

Please visit www.thomasaveling.co.uk for further details of the post and an application form.

Closing date for applications: Friday 30th October 2009

Short-listed candidates only will be contacted for interview which will take place on Thursday 5th November 2009.

The Thomas Aveling School is - an Equal opportunities Employer. - committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for all successful applicants.



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Teachers wanted

Local Teachers for Local Schools

We have 100's of permanent positions throughout Kent for qualified teachers, teaching assistants and school support staff.

Email kent.sussex@timeplan.net
or call **01732 373340**

Quality Mark
department for children, schools and families

timeplan

Saint George's
Church of England School
Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 533844

HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC
Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

CURRICULUM LEADER of SCIENCE

Required for January 2010
TLR1b (£8,975)

An exciting opportunity has arisen to appoint a dynamic new Curriculum Leader of Science who can inspire staff and is committed to raising the achievement of our students.

Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed comprehensive school. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new science facilities within our new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF.

Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email
dhariwalj@saintgeorgescfe.kent.sch.uk
or visit our website
www.saintgeorgescfe.kent.sch.uk
Closing Date : 21 October 2009

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road Rochester Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008 Email: harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

A Voluntary Controlled School specialising in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities
An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including 300 in the co-educational Sixth Form

'OUTSTANDING' Ofsted November 2008 – "a buzz of excitement pervades the school"

Part-time Teacher of ICT

This post would suit a qualified teacher or someone with aspirations to become a teacher. The school is well resourced and its ICT specialism enables every student to leave with an ICT qualification.

If you would like an opportunity to work in a lively and forward-looking department please contact the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, 01634 844008 or visit our website www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk where further details and an application form can be downloaded.

This is an excellent opportunity to join a successful, over-subscribed selective school. Behaviour was found to be "exemplary" by Ofsted. The School has recently achieved a Medway Council Gold Award in recognition of excellence in continuing professional development.

We are committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications – Wednesday, 4th November 2009

Saint George's
Church of England School
Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 533844

HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC
Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

DIRECTOR of MATHS and SCIENCE

Required for January 2010
L8 – L12

An exciting opportunity has arisen to appoint a dynamic new Director of Maths and Science who can inspire staff and is committed to raising the achievement of our students.

Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed comprehensive school. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF.

Saint George's C of E School is committed to promoting equality of opportunity, celebrating diversity and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescfe.kent.sch.uk
or visit our website www.saintgeorgescfe.kent.sch.uk
Closing Date: 21 October 2009

Ursuline College
225 Canterbury Road
Westgate-on-Sea Kent CT8 8LX
Phone 01843 834431 Fax 01843 835365

Specialist Sports College
Roman Catholic Co-educational Voluntary Aided Comprehensive 770 on roll
Required immediately

PA to Headteacher

37 hours per week, Term Time plus 3 weeks (41 weeks per annum)
Kent Scheme Payscale 7/8 Points 20-28 £20,262 – £26,421
(pro-rata to £17,875-£23,308)

We are seeking an experienced and exceptional Personal Assistant who will organise the smooth running of the Headteacher's office and co-ordinate an efficient and effective school office. This is an exciting opportunity to join this highly successful and over-subscribed College, to work with and support a hardworking, dedicated and friendly team of professionals, who are committed to achieving excellent standards across all areas of the School.

A full job description and person specification are available. Please apply for an application pack via e-mail to: lsimmons@ursuline.kent.sch.uk or in writing to Mrs L Simmons, School Bursar. Visits to the College are encouraged.

Closing date: Friday 23rd October 2009

Interviews to be held Wednesday 4th November 2009

"The College provides a good education for its learners and aspects of the College's work are outstanding" OFSTED 2007

Ursuline College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff/volunteers to share this commitment.

THE QUEST SCHOOL

We wish to appoint a

'16+ Development Officer'

(non curricular).

This part time role (3 days per week) will entail establishing links with local colleges and developing work experience placements with local businesses for our pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

Start date - ASAP

The right candidate will be self motivated and capable of using their initiative. Knowledge of KS5 special needs provision is required, a desire to make a difference in children's lives essential.

A full job description and application form is available from our website www.questschool.co.uk

Please return to:
Quest School, The Old Stables, Church Farm, Church Rd, Offham, West Malling, ME19 5NX. Tel: 01732 522700
Email: quest_school@btconnect.com

Closing date for applications: Friday 23rd October 2009
*Quest School is an equal opportunities employer
We are committed to promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children.*

Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD
T: 01227 710392 | W: www.spiresacademy.com

Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts

Spires ACADEMY

If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spires Academy where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners.

In appointing teaching colleagues we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important.

Vacancies for January 2010

Teacher of English

As our English department grows we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of English to join the Academy from 1st January 2010.

Teacher of Girls' PE

We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Girls' PE to join the Academy from 1st January 2010.

Teacher of Science

As the Academy continues to grow we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Science to join us from 1st January 2010.

Further details about all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spiresacademy.com or alternatively contact Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spiresacademy.com

Closing date for all posts: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009.

Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

With campuses in Ashford, Folkestone and Dover, South Kent College offers a wide range of courses from Entry Level to Level 7 and caters for over 10,000 students of all ages. We currently have the following opportunity at our Folkestone campus:

Lecturer – Public Services Ref: T1405
29.6 hours per week

You will act as course leader, teaching a range of Public Service courses to a variety of students of all abilities and ages. You will have a Level 3 qualification in an appropriate subject, a teaching qualification, or the willingness to achieve this upon appointment, and experience of working in a teaching or training environment.

You will have recent and relevant experience of working in a uniformed service, or comparable teaching experience of the subject. Above all, you will have a commitment to student success.

For further information or an application pack please contact the Human Resources Department on 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone), email: humanresources@southkent.ac.uk or visit www.southkent.ac.uk

The closing date for receipt of applications is 5pm Monday 2nd November 2009.

All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment. Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.

SKC South Kent College
ASHFORD • DOVER • FOLKESTONE



JobsforKent.co.uk

Accountancy

Trainee Accountant

Gravesend
Salary: Circa £15,500 - £28,000
Closing Date: 26 October 2009
Transformation & Finance Financial Services Trainee Accountant
Gravesend is a diverse borough facing exciting challenges in the future. We are at the heart of the Thames Gateway and on the brink of massive growth and development, so if you've got vision, imagination and ambition, there's no better place to progress your career. This is a career grade post that presents an exciting opportunity for the right candidate to increase their experience and responsibilities, as well as providing the opportunity to study for the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) professional accountancy qualification. Reporting to the Principal Accountant (Technical & Systems) you will assist in the day to day work of the Council's financial services department assisting in setting the annual budget for the Council, closure of the annual accounts, production of the annual Financial Statement and assisting in technical accountancy support and computer system administration for the finance section and the Council as a whole. We pride ourselves on providing a high quality financial management and advice service to designated budget holders and you will therefore be committed to continuation of this service, as well as bringing fresh ideas for improvements wherever possible. You will need excellent communication skills and the ability to work to challenging deadlines, as well as possessing an understanding of the importance of the accountancy function to an organisation such as the Council. Experience of using Microsoft Word and Excel is essential, and you must have a customer focused and flexible approach to delivering financial information. Ref: TAYSB Closing date: 26 October 2009 For an application form and job description please contact: Customer Services, Gravesend Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU. Telephone: 01474 33 70 00 Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.v.uk Website: www.gravesham.gov.uk/jobs
Gravesend Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. The council also operates a no smoking policy.

To apply/more information: Gravesend Borough Council
Quoting Job Ref: TA/SB
Tel: 01474 33 70 00
Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

www.gravesham.gov.uk/jobs
Gravesend Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. The council also operates a no smoking policy.

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Administrator

Canterbury
Salary: £12,000 - £14,000 pa
Administrator required for a training company based in Womenswood, just outside Canterbury. Duties to include telephone, filing and general administration. Monday-Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm. Please telephone Jeanette on 01227 831840 or via email jeanette.saunders@amactraining.co.uk for further information.

To apply/more information: AMACSPorts Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 833000
Email: jeanette.saunders@amactraining.co.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

OPERATIONS OFFICER

Folkestone
Salary: £25,620 - £30,210
Closing Date: Friday 6 November 2009
OPERATIONS OFFICER PROPERTY SERVICES £25,620 - £30,210 +

Car Allowance. An exciting opportunity has arisen for a surveyor with a broad knowledge of surveying and property management. For more details and an application pack, download at www.shephway.gov.uk or email jobs@shephway.gov.uk, alternatively call our 24 hour answer phone service on 01303 853481. Closing date for completed applications is Friday 6 November 2009.

To apply/more information: Shephway District Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 853481
Email: jobs@shephway.gov.uk

Bricklayers and Hoddies

Dover
Salary: TBA
Bricklayers & Hoddies required for site in Dover for 19th October. Must have current CSCS card, also CRB checks will be required. Please call Kim - 07538 435741.
To apply/more information: Kim
JKS Brickwork Contractors Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07538 435741
Email: kim@jksgroup.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Resistant Materials Teacher

Dartford
Salary: £120
Resistant materials teacher needed for an immediate start through to the end of the academic year at a North West Kent school with many good features. Through the hard work of teachers, staff, parents and governors, have built a strong reputation as a place of learning for all. Achieving Specialist College status in 2006. Position is suitable for qualified teachers, NQT, British or overseas trained teachers. All applicants must be fully qualified to teach and have recent experience working with children. If interested please contact Britny Goulet on 01732 373 340 or at britny.goulet@htimplan.net.
To apply/more information: Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-090630009
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email: britny.goulet@timeplan.net

Music Teacher

Ashford
Salary: £120
Music teacher needed to cover a maternity leave beginning on 2nd November though until 7th June. Teacher will be required to teach up to GCSE level as well as BTEC at a large over subscribed mixed comprehensive Medway school with good management and resources. The staff at the school are very supportive and all new and overseas staff have a mentor appointed to them. All applicants must be qualified to teach and have recent experience working with children. The post is suitable for experienced teachers as well as NQT's; British or overseas trained teachers. If interested please contact Britny Goulet on 01732 373 340 or by email at britny.goulet@timeplan.net.
To apply/more information: Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-090925003
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email: britny.goulet@timeplan.net

To apply/more information: Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-090925003
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email: britny.goulet@timeplan.net

CURRICULUM LEADER of SCIENCE

Gravesend
Salary: TLR1b (£8,975)
Closing Date: 21 October 2009
Saint George's Church of England School Humanities College Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 533844
HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate
BDACK Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College 11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School
CURRICULUM LEADER of SCIENCE Required for January 2010 TLR1b (£8,975). An exciting opportunity has arisen to appoint a dynamic new Curriculum Leader of Science who can inspire staff and is

committed to raising the achievement of our students. Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed comprehensive school. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new science facilities within our new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF. Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks. Contact us to request further details and an application form. Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk Closing Date : 21 October 2009
To apply/more information: St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Finding staff

24-7

JobsforKent.co.uk

To advertise in this section or online

01303 817040

Teacher of English

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 23rd October 2009
If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spire Academy where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners. In appointing teaching colleagues we look for young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important. Vacancies for January 2010 Teacher of English As our English department grows we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of English to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Girls' PE We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Girls' PE to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Science As the Academy continues to grow we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Science to join us from 1st January 2010. Further details about all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spireacademy.com or alternatively contact Marion Wington at m.wington@spireacademy.com Closing date for all posts: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009. Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD T: 01227 710392 I W: www.spireacademy.com Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts Spire Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.
To apply/more information: Spire Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email m.wington@spireacademy.com

Teacher of Girls' PE

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009.
If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spire Academy where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners. In appointing teaching colleagues we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new

approaches and ideas is also important. Vacancies for January 2010 Teacher of English As our English department grows we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of English to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Girls' PE We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Girls' PE to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Science As the Academy continues to grow we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Science to join us from 1st January 2010. Further details about all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spireacademy.com or alternatively contact Marion Wington at m.wington@spireacademy.com Closing date for all posts: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009. Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD T: 01227 710392 I W: www.spireacademy.com Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts Spire Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.
To apply/more information: Spire Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email m.wington@spireacademy.com

Teacher of Science

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009
If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spire Academy where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners. In appointing teaching colleagues we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important. Vacancies for January 2010 Teacher of English As our English department grows we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of English to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Girls' PE We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Girls' PE to join the Academy from 1st January 2010. Teacher of Science As the Academy continues to grow we are seeking to appoint a Teacher of Science to join us from 1st January 2010. Further details about all posts and application forms are available on our website www.spireacademy.com or alternatively contact Marion Wington at m.wington@spireacademy.com Closing date for all posts: 12.00 noon, Friday 23rd October 2009. Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD T: 01227 710392 I W: www.spireacademy.com Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts Spire Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.
To apply/more information: Spire Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email m.wington@spireacademy.com

Part-Time Dyslexia and Specific Needs Tutor

Kent
Salary: £11,880 - £16,333
Closing Date: 12 noon Thursday 22 October 2009
At West Kent College, our goal is to provide an exceptional learning experience for every student - and now we need a committed individual to help us achieve that. In return, you can look forward to a great future with one of the most successful colleges in the south east region. You will find a genuinely open and supportive environment, as well as excellent training and development from this Investor in People organisation. Part-Time Dyslexia and Specific Needs Tutor £11,880 - £16,333 + excellent benefits. We are determined to provide the very highest levels of support to students with specific learning difficulties. Our excellent track record speaks for itself - and now we are taking it further. Our goal is to improve inclusion and deliver best practice as we raise the aspirations and achievements of every learner. If you share our ambitions, this exciting role could be perfect for you. As well as assessing and supporting students across all curriculum areas, you will establish student support plans and contribute to diagnostic screening for Dyslexia. With a recognised SpLD teaching qualification, you should bring proven experience of working with learners who have specific learning difficulties including Dyslexia, Aspergers, Dyspraxia and Speech and Language Disorder. In return, there is an excellent range of benefits including generous

annual leave, final salary pension, flexible working options, private health plan, on-site nursery and more. Previous applicants need not apply. To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk Please quote ref: KOS11 Closing date: 12 noon Thursday 22 October 2009
To apply/more information: West Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: KOS11
Tel: 01732 376511
Email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk

Teaching Assistant - inclusion project

Rochester
Salary: £15,039 - £19,126 pro-rata
Closing Date: Friday 30th October 2009
THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL (A Foundation Technology College) Arrethusa Road, Rochester, Kent. ME1 2UH. Headteacher: Mr P Jackson BSc Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385 Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk Teaching Assistant - inclusion project Part Time term time only (13 hours per week); Friday 7 hours each week plus additional day (tba) of 6 hours Salary: NJC Scale D2 point 12 - Point 21 (presently £15,039 - £19,126) pro-rata Start date: November 2009 An opportunity has arisen for a pro-active, energetic and robust but patient individual to join the associate staff at this popular secondary school. This is a challenging but rewarding opportunity to work with vulnerable students on an innovative inclusion project that involves student participation in a range of sporting activities and community projects away from the school site in order to assist them re-focus and improve attainment levels. This will take place on Friday of each week. In addition this one further day to be agreed will be spent on site supporting students within the classroom environment. Please visit www.thomasaveling.co.uk for further details of the post and an application form. Closing date for applications: Friday 30th October 2009 Short-listed candidates only will be contacted for interview which will take place on Thursday 5th November 2009. The Thomas Aveling School is:- An Equal opportunities Employer - committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for all successful applicants.
To apply/more information: Thomas Aveling School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844809
Email office@thomasaveling.co.uk

DIRECTOR of MATHS and SCIENCE
Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 21 October 2009
Saint George's Church of England School, Humanities College, Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 533844
HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate
BDACK Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College 11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School
DIRECTOR of MATHS and SCIENCE Required for January 2010 L8 - L12 An exciting opportunity has arisen to appoint a dynamic new Director of Maths and Science who can inspire staff and is committed to raising the achievement of our students. Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed comprehensive school. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF. Saint George's C of E School is committed to promoting equality of opportunity, celebrating diversity and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks. Contact us to request further details and an application form. Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk Closing Date : 21 October 2009
To apply/more information: St George's CoE School

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 533082
Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Part-time Teacher of ICT

Rochester
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Wednesday, 4th November 2009
Part-time Teacher of ICT This post would suit a qualified teacher or someone with aspirations to become a teacher. The school is well resourced and its ICT specialism enables every student to leave with an ICT qualification. If you would like an opportunity to work in a lively and forward-looking department please contact the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, 01634 844008 or visit our website www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk where further details and an application form can be downloaded. This is an excellent opportunity to join a successful, over-subscribed selective school. Behaviour was found to be "exemplary" by Ofsted. The School has recently achieved a Medway Council Gold Award in recognition of excellence in continuing professional development. We are committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check. Closing date for applications - Wednesday, 4th November 2009
To apply/more information: Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844008
Email harrison@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

STOCK CONTROL PERSONNEL

Ramsgate
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 23 October 2009
STOCK CONTROL PERSONNEL We are currently looking to recruit experienced stock control/stores personnel in our busy factory here in Ramsgate. The successful candidate will need to work well as part of a team, be computer literate and have experience of stock control systems. Good communication skills and able to work to tight deadlines are also essential. Experienced candidates need only apply, no agencies. Please apply to Ray Kemp, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP or e-mail ray.kemp@piperwindows.co.uk. Closing date for applications is Friday 23 October 2009. We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.
To apply/more information: Piper Windows
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email ray.kemp@piperwindows.co.uk

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

POWER ELECTRICS and COMPUTER LITERATE.

Kent
Salary: TBA
A small practice specialising in bespoke power control systems is looking for a self motivated person to fill an immediate project need under contract for six to nine months but could become permanent for the right person. Would suit someone with experience or maybe a graduate who is keen to please and learn. They would also need to be committed and hard working but enjoy a flexible and varied "routine". An ideal position for the right person - a problem for the wrong! Skills needed are knowledge/experience of power electronics; computer/CAD literate; an interest in controls and software; verbal and written communication; but anything

missing can follow on with the right attitude. - East Kent area. Reply in confidence by email to: peter@powerplan.ltd.uk or phone Peter Marsh Powerplan Managing Director Mob 07770594370
To apply/more information: Powerplan Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email peter@powerplan.ltd.uk

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

SANTAS, ELVES AND GROTTO SUPERVISORS

Kent
Salary: TBA
WANTED - SANTAS, ELVES AND GROTTO SUPERVISORS
Dreamtime Events is recruiting for the country's leading Santas and Elves to spend the festive season in our magical grottos. If you love the Christmas season, are friendly, approachable, dedicated and hard working, you'll fit in perfectly. We have sites across the UK with Full or Part-time vacancies available: Bluewater, Brent Cross, Bromley, Watford, Tunbridge Wells, Camberley, Tonbridge. You will be rewarded with a high weekly income and a fun working environment for the Christmas Season. To be considered for the role of Santa you will either need to hold a clean CRB check no older than 12 months or be willing for us to apply for one on your behalf. For more information or to apply online: www.dreamtimeevents.com Or contact us on: Tel: 01727 767 258 Fax: 01727 898 334 E-Mail: office@dreamtimeevents.com
To apply/more information: Dreamtime Events
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01727 767 258
Email office@dreamtimeevents.com

Class leaders

Faversham
Salary: TBA
Interested in Health & Wellness? Class leaders wanted for Arriba! Wellness Clubs £1,000-£2,500 per month F/T or P/T Full Training Available Call Sara on 01795 532201 www.arriba-classleaders.co.uk
To apply/more information: Sara Jane Marmont
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 532201
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

Commercial Window Site Manager

Kent
Salary: TBA
Commercial Window Site Manager You will be responsible for overseeing installations of PVCu and aluminium products on refurbishment and new build contracts across the South of England. This role involves arranging and taking deliveries, liaising with Constructors, RLO's and the public, organising the workforce and inspecting completed works for handovers. Attention to detail, enthusiasm and organisation skills are important. Experience is preferred but is not essential. NVQ training will be provided as well as a company car, pension and attractive salary package. Please apply by CV and covering letter to the Contracts Department at 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP. We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.
To apply/more information: Piper Windows
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

Self-Employed Site Operator

Kent



Jobs by Email

Be the first to receive the latest Kent Jobs

JobsforKent.co.uk

Salary: No Ceiling on your earnings
Self-Employed Site Operator required for the Kent area. We are the world's largest independent car wash company with a growing team of 320 successful self-employed conveyor car wash operators. We are looking for hard working and motivated selfemployed operators. You will be your own boss, building, running and developing your own successful business, backed by the support and training offered by arc carwash. A generous commission is paid daily for each car washed and you will have the opportunity to increase your earnings by offering valeting services. There is no ceiling on your earnings and your start-up costs are low. Interested in joining our winning team? Please visit www.arc-carwash.co.uk for further details, alternatively call 01494 897450 or email renata-moniak@imo-carwash.co.uk for an application pack. Opportunities are available to both male and female candidates.
To apply/more information: ARC Carwash
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01494 897450
Email renata-moniak@imo-carwash.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Carer

Herne Bay
Salary: Starting salary £6.24-£6.86 p.h
HMT Care is dedicated to the care of people diagnosed within the spectrum of neuro-disability, particularly HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE. We provide an holistic and person-centred approach to care and require dedicated and committed staff to work with us. Duties will include personal care and day-to-day assistance and support of residents. A competitive salary, promotion prospects, accredited specialist training, together with NVQ opportunities, is our commitment to you. Previous experience and qualifications are an advantage, but are not essential. Part-time and full-time hours are available. Also part-time Nights. To request an application form and information please call weekdays between 10am and 4pm
To apply/more information: Nana or Paul
HMT Care Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 742992
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Support Workers

Medway
Salary: TBA
Due to continuing growth we are recruiting Support Workers required to work in Medway Towns and Maidstone. Hours: full-time, part-time, as and when basis. Car driver with own transport essential. Presland Care provides quality support to enable people to remain independent and live in their own homes. For an application form please contact Jane or Rita on 01634 673333
Email: info@preslandcare.co.uk
We are actively encouraging equal opportunities. Successful applications will be dependent on a clear enhanced CRB check and two satisfactory references.
To apply/more information: Presland Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 673333
Email info@preslandcare.co.uk

Registered Nurse

Romney Marsh
Salary: £146.90 per night
Bethany Lodge, Dymchurch Regiores. Registered Nurse Friday Night duty. To join our team in caring for 24 physically disabled adults. £146.90 per night 8pm to 8am. Please Tel: 01303 872289 for further details and application form.
To apply/more information: Bethany Lodge/Bethany House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 872289
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

FULL/PART TIME R.G. NURSE

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
HIGHVIEW OAST CARE HOME Tel: 01304 813333. Family orientated Care Home in wonderful country setting has a vacancy for a FULL/PART TIME R.G. NURSE. We offer excellent educational opportunities and possibility of promotion within the company. Please telephone Sheelagh Sanford for more details
To apply/more information: Sheelagh Sanford
High View Oast Nursing Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 813333
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Local Carers - Awake Night Shift

Herne Bay
Salary: TBA
Small Residential Care Home in Herne Bay Requires Local Carers to work Awake Night Shift Thursday Hrs 8.30pm to 10.30am Good Rates of Pay In-House Training Provided NVQ Training Available Friendly Atmosphere Please call (01227) 374633 or 623212 Email: hernebay@home-service.co.uk All applications are subject to CRB Disclosure
To apply/more information: Krystelgate Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 374633
Email hernebay@home-service.co.uk

COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS

Herne Bay
Salary: TBA
COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS Are you looking for a challenging but rewarding job that can make a real difference to people's lives This job entails supporting our client's in their own homes by providing personal care, domestic duties, shopping calls and many more daily tasks. Flexible working hours. Days, evenings, weekends Available. Excellent rates of pay. In house training and NVQ's available Call today on Tel:01227 362312 for Herne Bay & Whitstable Area Or Email: hernebay@home-service.co.uk All applications are subject to CRB disclosure
To apply/more information: Home Service Complete Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 362312
Email hernebay@home-service.co.uk

Senior Care Assistant

Faversham
Salary: TBA
Senior Care Assistant Required To work in Faversham NVQ3 or working towards would be an advantage. Duties will include supervise shift and carry out all tasks with assistance provided, necessary to run a family type care home. To promote healthcare and well being of the residence. Liaise with doctors, care managers and other professional colleagues as required and, to supervise all staff in the performance of their duties. Maintenance of all records as instructed from time to time to assist with healthcare arrangements for residence and exercise control and admin of all medication. For further details please Tel: 01795 532629 between 10am to 4pm.
To apply/more information: Carnalea Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 532629
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Healthcare Assistantsand Registered Nurses

Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
Healthcare Assistants & Registered Nurses Day & Night Duties Available (Own Transport Required) To provide care for people in their own homes Hours available NOW Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells areas Local Hospital Shift work also available. • Subject to satisfactory enhanced CRB • Flexible Hours • Subsidised Training • Contribution towards Mileage Please contact us at either our Tunbridge Wells or Kings Hill office Bayada Nurses Ltd

Suite 37, Calverley House, Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. TN11 2TU 01890 704215 • Email: info@bayada.co.uk • www.bayada.co.uk
To apply/more information: Bayada Nurses Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01890 704215
Email info@bayada.co.uk

Registered Nurses

Canterbury
Salary: Salary negotiable
NICHOLAS JAMES CARE HOMES Ltd Dale Road Southfleet Kent DA13 9NX Registered Nurses required by the above company for homes in the Canterbury,Whitstable, Herne Bay area. Salary negotiable For further details please contact: Tina Thomas Business Development Manager Email: tina.thomas@njch.co.uk Tel: 07939 045304
To apply/more information: Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07939 045304
Email tina.thomas@njch.co.uk

Vacancies filled fast online with
JobsforKent.co.uk
To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Children's Support Worker

Canterbury
Salary: £21,306 - £27,573
Closing Date: 30 October 2009
Children's Support Worker – Sunlight Project £21,306 - £27,573 + ESSENTIAL CARUSERALLOWANCEOFUPTO£1,170 MATERNITY COVER FOR SIX MONTHS + 37 HOURS PERWEEK BASED IN CANTERBURY COVERING THE SWALE AREA KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors. KCA Young Persons' Services provide specialist substance misuse help for children, young people, their families and carers. The Sunlight Project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund, offers support to children from substance misusing families in Swale, Dover and Thanet. We require a support worker to deliver our group work programmes aimed at 7 - 13 year old children who are affected by someone else's misuse of substances. The groups promote emotional and psychological well-being through structured sessions. The project works closely with Children's Social Services, schools and other children's services. You will need experience of working with children and delivering group work interventions. Ideally you will also have a sound knowledge of substance misuse issues.Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 611. Closing date: 30 October 2009. Interview date: 10 November 2009. KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.
To apply/more information: KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 611
Tel: 01795 590635
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

Project Officer - Margate Drop-In

Margate
Salary: £20791 pro rata
Closing Date: 30/10/09
Margate Drop-In Centre - Project Officer Margate Drop-In Centre is a welcoming safe place run by

@directchoice.co.uk or post to Anna-Lisa DeVoll, HR Officer, Direct Choice, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE. Please quote reference: DC333/KOS. Closing date: 23 October 2009. www.directchoice.com
To apply/more information: Saga Quoting Job Ref: DC333/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email recruitment@directchoice.co.uk

CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS

Folkestone
Salary: OT£ 14k
Closing Date: 23 October 2009
Driven by success? Then you'll thrive. SALES AGENTS • OTE up to £15k (basic salary + uncapped commission) CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS • OTE up to £14k (basic salary + uncapped commission) SALES AGENTS (OUTBOUND) • OTE up to £15k (basic salary + uncapped commission) Excellent benefits packages • Cheriton, Folkestone Looking to build an exciting future? It's time you got to know Direct Choice. Part of the same group as Saga and The AA, we can offer lots of great career opportunities for friendly and helpful people like you.

For our team, success is about delighting our customers. Listening to them, understanding what they need and providing a great service. You'll need to be tenacious, target-driven and focused on results, that's for sure. But if you're the kind of person who gets a real buzz out of succeeding, you'll thrive in this fast-moving environment. Experience in sales or a contact centre would be ideal, but it's not essential if you've terrific communication skills. What matters is that you can rise to every new challenge you're given. There's full training, not to mention ongoing support every step of the way. We also offer outstanding opportunities for career progression and a first-rate benefits package. To apply, please call 01303 774888 for an application form. Alternatively, please e-mail your CV to recruitment@directchoice.co.uk or post to Anna-Lisa DeVoll, HR Officer, Direct Choice, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE. Please quote reference: DC333/KOS. Closing date: 23 October 2009. www.directchoice.com
To apply/more information: Saga
Quoting Job Ref: DC333/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email recruitment@directchoice.co.uk

SALES AGENTS (OUTBOUND)

Folkestone
Salary: OTE £15k
Closing Date: 23 October 2009
Driven by success? Then you'll thrive. SALES AGENTS • OTE up to £15k (basic salary + uncapped commission) CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS • OTE up to £14k (basic salary + uncapped commission) SALES AGENTS (OUTBOUND) • OTE up to £15k (basic salary + uncapped commission) Excellent benefits packages • Cheriton, Folkestone Looking to build an exciting future? It's time you got to know Direct Choice. Part of the same group as Saga and The AA, we can offer lots of great career opportunities for friendly and helpful people like you. For our team, success is about delighting our customers. Listening to them, understanding what they need and focused on results, that's for sure. But if you're the kind of person who gets a real buzz out of succeeding, you'll thrive in this fast-moving environment. Experience in sales or a contact centre would be ideal, but it's not essential if you've terrific

communication skills. What matters is that you can rise to every new challenge you're given. There's full training, not to mention ongoing support every step of the way. We also offer outstanding opportunities for career progression and a first-rate benefits package. To apply, please call 01303 774888 for an application form. Alternatively, please e-mail your CV to recruitment@directchoice.co.uk or post to Anna-Lisa DeVoll, HR Officer, Direct Choice, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE. Please quote reference: DC333/KOS. Closing date: 23 October 2009. www.directchoice.com
To apply/more information: Saga Quoting Job Ref: DC333/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email recruitment@directchoice.co.uk

Sales People Kent

Salary: TBA
Sales People required No experience necessary. Full training and vehicle provided. Call 01732 760484
To apply/more information: Black Tie Foods Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 760484
Email blacktie@btconnect.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION
A21 KIPPINGS CROSS TO LAMBERHURST ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION UNDER SECTION 105 A (9) OF THE HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

The Secretary of Transport hereby gives notice that he has determined that the proposal to improve the A21 from Kippings Cross to Lamberhurst, which is a relevant project within the meaning of section 105A (1) of the Highways Act 1980 is subject to environmental impact assessment in accordance with Part VA of the Highways Act 1980 implementing Directive 85/337/EEC as amended.

Any comments about this notice should be sent to the Highways Agency at the address given below. Any comments should be made as soon as possible preferably before 24th November 2009.

Further information on the project and about this notice may be obtained from the Highways Agency, Federated House, London Road, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1SZ or from Graham Link on 01306 878122 or from A21KippingsXLamber@highways.gsi.gov.uk

JOHN MARTIN
Highways Agency

PUBLIC NOTICE TO CLOSE ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED INFANT SCHOOL

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent. ME4 4TR intends to discontinue ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED INFANT SCHOOL, 4 New Street, Chatham, ME4 6RH on 31 August 2010.

The proposal is to close St John's Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant School in August 2010 and relocate pupils to neighbouring schools. This proposal is made in order to reduce surplus places and to ensure that the remaining provision in the area will be able to deliver efficient and effective education.

The local authority believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for the children with special educational needs (SEN) currently at St John's Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant School because neighbouring schools will thereafter have larger overall budgets for SEN, and these increased budgets will enable those schools to increase the standard, quality and range of their SEN provision, and improve such provision in the local area from its present levels.

Because of the close proximity of alternative places, we expect that the majority of pupils would be able to walk to school. Pupil's who meet the criteria would be entitled to free home to school transport.

This notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Chris McKenzie, Head of School Organisation and Student Services, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR. Phone 01634 334013 or visit www.medway.gov.uk/mpsc

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them in writing to Simon Trotter, Assistant Director Learning and Achievement, Children and Adults, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham ME4 4TR.

Signed: Rose Collinson
Director of Children & Adults- Learning and caring

Publication Date: 16 October 2009

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/02479/FL – The Shire 131 Offham Road West Malling Kent ME19 6RE – Mrs K Garrard is applying for proposed residential occupation without complying with condition 1 of planning permission TM/94/00018/FL (Variation of condition (iv) of permission TM/86/1165 - occupation of the accommodation for holiday let and business persons use) that restricted use to holiday accommodation. Reason: CA

TM/09/02363/FL – Park Cottage Addington Green Addington West Malling Kent ME19 5BG – Mr And Mrs Kidd are applying for first floor side extension. Reason: CA HH

TM/09/02435/FL – West Malling Cricket Club Norman Road West Malling Kent ME15 9RA – Mr David Gurton is applying for retention of shipping container for storage purposes and provision of footpath to club house. Reason: CA

TM/09/02399/FL – Keelers Yopps Green Plaxtol Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0PY – Mr M Tomlinson is applying for first floor side extension and insertion of dormer window. Reason: CA HH

TM/09/02336/FL – Stansted House Malthouse Road Stansted Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7PH – Mr And Mrs A Bourne are applying for alterations to existing garage and replacement of existing flat roof with pitched tiled roof. Reason: CA

TM/09/02309/FL – George And Dragon High Street Wrotham Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7AA – Mr Raymond Allen is applying to lay a patio to the rear garden incorporating wheelchair access and a smoking shelter with UV protection. Reason: LB CA

Reasons for the case being publicised:
LB Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting.
CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area.
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 8 November 2009.

David Hughes
Chief Executive
18 October 2009

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(COURT LODGE ROAD, APPLEDORE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of highway verge repairs, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Court Lodge Road, Appledore, between The Quillet and Asparagus Farm, on or after 24 October 2009, for an estimated period of one day or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Ferry Road (also known as Appledore Road), Tenterden Road and The Street.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(ARKLEY ROAD, HERNE BAY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Footwork Works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Arkley Road, Herne Bay from Spenser Road to Stanley Road on 19 October 2009 for an estimated period of two weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Spenser Road, B2205 Canterbury Road and Kings Road .

This order will come into force on Monday 19 October 2009 and will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(SEA VIEW ROAD, HERNE BAY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because installation of wastewater pipeline works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sea View Road, Herne Bay, as described in the Schedule from 19 October 2009 for an estimated period of 11 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be as shown in the schedule.

Phase 1

Specified Road	Programmed Dates	Alternative Route
Sea View Road closed from the junction with Reculver Road to Beltinge Road	19 October 2009 for 8 weeks	Southbound traffic via Beltinge Road and Cliff Avenue Northbound traffic via Reculver Road, Grange Road and Landon Road

Phase 2

Specified Road	Programmed Dates	Alternative Route
Sea View Road closed from the junction with Beltinge Road to Alma Road	30 November for 3 weeks	Beltinge Road, Beacon Avenue and Alma Road

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS CANTERBURY & HERNE BAY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads Canterbury & Herne Bay, as described in the Schedule to this order from 19 October 2009 onwards.

The alternative route for through traffic will be as shown in column 3 of the Schedule.

Schedule

Specified Road	Programmed Dates	Alternative Route
Gorse Lane, Herne and Broomfield – The Whole Length	19 October 2009 for 2 days	Hunters Forstal Road, Mill Lane and Broomfield Road
Link Road, Tyler Hill, Canterbury – The Whole Length	20 October 2009 for 1 day	Hackington Road, Wood Hill and Calais Hill
Manwood Avenue, Canterbury from the junction with Hales Drive to The Crescent	21 October 2009 for 1 day	The Terrace, Tenterden Drive, Downs Road and St Stephens Hill
Hudson Road and Military Road, Canterbury from the junction with Brymore Road to City Council Offices entrance in Military Road	22 October 2009 for 2 days	Brymore Road, Sturry Road, Tourtel Road and Military Road
Teddington Close and Regency Place closed at their junctions with Hudson Road and Military Road	22 October 2009 for 2 days	No diversion route. Restricted access as and when notified

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(A2990 THANET WAY GREENHILL, HERNE BAY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because inspection of footbridge works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A2990 Thanet Way Greenhill, Herne Bay between Greenhill Roundabout and Flamingo Drive on 24 October 2009 and 1 November 2009 or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed between the hours of 7:30pm to 6:30am.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Canterbury Road, High Street, Avenue Road, Sea Street and Greenhill Bridge Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(OUT ELMSTEAD LANE, BARHAM AND BLACK ROBIN LANE, KINGSTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that to maintain a safe working space during the construction of a brideway bridge over the A2, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Out Elmstead Lane, Barham and Black Robin Lane, Kingston, from their junctions with the A2, for a distance of 10 metres. This takes effect on or after 2 November 2009, for an estimated period of 14 weeks, or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be (a) for Out Elmstead Lane, and (b) for Black Robin Lane via A2 Dover Road, Bishopsbourne off-slip and Bonny Bush Hill.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BROOMFIELD ROAD, HERNE BAY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gas main replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Broomfield Road, Herne Bay at the junction with Hunters Chase to Gorse Lane on or after 2 November 2009 for an estimated period of 6 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Gorse Lane, Hunters Forstal Road, Margate Road (South) and The Meadows.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BEKESBOURNE LANE AND BEKESBOURNE HILL, CANTERBURY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gully cleansing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bekesbourne Lane and Bekesbourne Hill Canterbury, from its junction with the A257 Littlebourne Road to Station Road on or after 4 November 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days between the hours of 9:00am to 3:00pm or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via the A257 Canterbury Road, The Hill, High Street, The Green and Bekesbourne Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(FAVERSHAM ROAD AND JOY LANE, WHITSTABLE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Faversham Road and Joy Lane, Whitstable as described in columns 1 & 2 of the Schedule to this Order, on or after 4 November 2009, as shown in column 4 of the Schedule.

The alternative route for through traffic will be as shown in column 3 of the Schedule.

Schedule

Specified Road	Length of road affected	Alternative route	Programmed date
Phase 1			
Faversham Road, Whitstable	between the junction with Seasalter Lane and The Sportsman public house	Westbound via Church Lane, A2990 Thanet Way, A290 Clapham Hill, west onto A299 Thanet Way, Staple Street, Staple Street Road, Head Hill Road and Seasalter Road Eastbound via Faversham Road, Seasalter Road, Head Hill Road, Whitstable Road, A299 Thanet Way, A2990 Thanet Way, Borstal Hill and Joy Lane	From 4 November 2009 for up to 6 days
Phase 2			
Faversham Road and Joy Lane, Whitstable	Faversham Road from the junction with Church Lane through to Joy Lane for its entire length	Church Lane, Thanet Way and Borstal Hill	From 23 November 2009 for up to 5 nights

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
STATION ROAD ROUNDABOUT JUNCTION HALL ROAD, SOUTHFLEET (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic at Roundabout, Southfleet at junctions with New Barn Road, Station Road, Hall Road and the on/off slip for the A2.

The Order will become effective on 19th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 2 nights between the 20:00 – 05:00hrs. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via as the attached schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate thin surfacing scheme.

Schedule

	Date	Diversion
For Longfield	19th October for 2 nights 20:00 – 05:00 hours	Access off of the A2 – Exit the A2 at the Bluewater exit, Bean Road, Watling Street, Princes Road, Green Street Green Road and Main Road
For Northfleet	19th October for 2 nights 20:00 – 05:00 hours	Access off of the A2 – Exit the A2 Bluewater exit, Bean Road, Watling Street then exit the A2 for Northfleet
Station Road	19th October for 2 nights 20:00 – 05:00 hours	Green Street Green Road, Main Road, Longfield Road, A227 Writtham Road and the A2
New Barn Road	19th October for 2 nights 20:00 – 05:00 hours	Main Road, Longfield Road, A227 Wrotham Road and the A2
Hall Road	19th October for 2 nights 20:00 – 05:00 hours	A2 exit at the Gravesend East (travelling coast bound) use the junction to travel London Bound on the A2, exit A2 Ebbsfleet and Park Corner Road

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic various roads Dartford as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 21st October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in the schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative routes for the routes described above will be via: as the attached schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

Schedule

Road Name	Extent	Duration	Diversion
East Hill, Dartford	From its junction with Home Gardens to its junction with Park Road	5 nights between 1900 - 0500	Overty Liberty, Market Street, Lowfield Street, Princes Road and Park Road for east bound traffic. Then its Park Road, Princes Road, Lowfield Street, Instone Road, Highfield Road, Westgate Road and Home Gardens for west bound traffic.
Southfleet Road, Bean	From its junction with School Lane to its junction Sandbanks Hill	4 days between 0900 - 1500	Southfleet Road, Sandbanks Hill, Green Street Green Road, A2, Bean Lane and the High Street
New Barn Road, Longfield	From its junction with Pecot Avenue to its junction with Longfield Avenue	5 nights between 1900 - 0500	New Barn Road, A2, A227, Longfield Road and Main Road.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
HILL RISE, DARENTH (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Hill Rise, Darenth between its junctions with Green Street Green Road to Langlands.

The Order will become effective on 2nd November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to start on the 3rd November and last 5 days between 08:00 – 17:00. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Green Street Green Road, Ladywood Road and Langlands Drive.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
ALAMEIN ROAD, SWANSCOMBE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Alamein Road, Swanscombe between its junctions with Milton Street to Bodle Avenue.

The Order will become effective on 2nd November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to start on the 7th November and last 2 days between 08:00 – 17:00. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Milton Street, Manor Road and Bodle Avenue.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(UNION ROAD, DEAL) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new electrical sub station cable works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Union Road, Deal from the junction with High Street to the junction with West Street on or after 19 October 2009 for an estimated period of 8 working days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via High Street, St Georges Road and West Street.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(LOWER ROAD, TEMPLE EWELL) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gas mains replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Lower Road, Temple Ewell from junction of Mill Street, Lower Road and High Street, Temple Ewell on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 1 week or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via London Road Temple Ewell and Alkham Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(MILL HILL & MILL ROAD, DEAL) (TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway resurfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting traffic on Mill Hill & Mill Road, Deal as described in columns 2 and 3 of the schedule to this order on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 4 of that schedule.

Schedule

Road	Restriction	Length of road affected	Alternative route
Mill Hill	Road closure	Closed from the junction with Freemans Way to the junction with Manor Road	Mill Road, Hamilton Road, Telegraph Road, St Richards Road and Mill Hill.
Mill Road	10mph temporary mandatory speed limit	For a distance of 215 metres between the junctions of Manor Road and Hamilton Road. The effect of the Order is to impose a temporary mandatory 10mph speed restriction within the works area, which will be operated by means of a “convoy” system when the roadworks are taking place.	Mill Road, Hamilton Road, Telegraph Road, St Richards Road and Mill Hill.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, DEAL) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER
2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD
TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because water pipe renewal works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Deal as described in columns 1 and 2 of the schedule to this order on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 3 of that schedule.

Schedule

Road	Length of road affected	Alternative routes
Wellington Road	From the junction with Blenheim Road to the junction with Victoria Road	Blenheim Road, Gilford Road, Victoria Road, Sondes Road, Beach Street, South Street
Middle Street	From the junction with Silver Street to the junction with Golden Street. Outside 145	Local traffic via Silver Street, Beach Street and Golden Street
Middle Street	From the junction with Brewer Street to the junction with Coppin Street. Outside 82	Local traffic via Coppin Street, Beach Street and Brewer Street
Wellington Road	For the duration of the works, there will be a temporary suspension of the existing one way order on Wellington Road between the junctions of Blenheim Road and Victoria Road.	

This suspension will cease on completion of the works.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
JUBILEE CRESCENT, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Jubilee Crescent, Gravesend outside and opposite the property 103.

The Order will become effective on 19th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 7 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place. The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Hampton Crescent, Silver Road and Jubilee Crescent.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of a new electrical supply.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
KINGS DRIVE AND CENTRAL AVENUE, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY
PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC
REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY
RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on the corner of Kings Drive and Central Avenue, Gravesend.

The Order will become effective on 19th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 25th October 2009 and last 10 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Central Avenue, Elm Road and Oak Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate connection of dwellings to a sewer main.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
SOLE STREET, COBHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS
AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on the Sole Street, Cobham between The Railway Inn Public House and Manor Road.

The Order will become effective on 19th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 26th October 2009 and last 6 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Camer Road, Green Lane, A227 Wrotham Road, Chalky Bank, A2 Watling Street, Henhurst Road and Jeskyns Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate removal of white line system and reinstate new hazard line and road hatching.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
MANOR ROAD, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS
AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Manor Road, Gravesend between its junctions with Windmill Street to Parrock Street.

The Order will become effective on 2nd November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 8th November and last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate excavation and duct laying.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(AMBER LANE, CHART SUTTON) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Amber Lane, Chart Sutton from Orchard Cottages to Cobfields on or after Monday 19th October 2009 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is for westbound traffic via Chart Corner, Plough Wents Road, Brishing Road, Amber Lane and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to provide a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Scott Davis of Amber Langis Limited on 01474 573831.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BLIND LANE, BREDHURST) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER
2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD
TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Blind Lane, Bredhurst across the junction with Forge Lane on after Monday 19th October 2009 for a period of up to 1 week or until such works are completed.

There is no alternative route but access will be available.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to repair a broken gully lead and ancillary pipe work. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Alan Baldock on 08458 247 800.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HAM LANE, LENHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD
TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Ham Lane, Lenham between the junctions of Beacon Road and Old Ham Lane on or after Monday 19th October 2009 for a period of up to 1 week or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for westbound traffic via High Street, Maidstone Road, A20 Ashford Road, Ham Lane and eastbound vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to repair a broken gully lead and ancillary pipe work. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Alan Baldock on 08458 247 800.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HEATH ROAD, COXHEATH) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER
2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD
TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Heath Road, Coxheath on or after Sunday 25th October 2009 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is eastbound traffic via B2163 Ewell Lane, B2010 Lower Road, Dean Street, Farleigh Hill, Tovil Hill, Tovil Road, College Road, A229 Mill Street, Palace Avenue, Lower Stone Street, Upper Stone Street, Loose Road, Linton Road and for westbound traffic vice versa (except use Sheals Crescent and Hayle Road due to one way system) then back onto College Road, Tovil Road etc.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for modifications to be made to existing traffic calming scheme. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Julian Cook on 08458 247 800.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHURCH STREET, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Church Street between Wyke Manor Road and Marsham Street on or after Monday 2nd November 2009 for a period of up to 4 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is for traffic via Union Street, Wyatt Street, Marsham Street, Church Street.

Natta Building Company Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to construct a new storm sewer and to connect to an existing manhole. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Joanne Murray on 01252 851155.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(WHITE HILL ROAD, DETLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on White Hill Road, outside Boston Elms on or after Monday 2nd November 2009 for a period of up to 3 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is for westbound traffic via Scragged Oak Road, Cox Street, Magpie Lane, Yaughter Lane, Matts Hill Road, White Hill Road and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to provide a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Scott Davis of Amber Langis Limited on 01474 573831.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS
AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads, Sevenoaks as noted in the attached schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 2nd November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in attached schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: as per the attached schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gully cleansing and drainage works.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
Well Hill, Crockenhill	From Parkgate Road to Rock Hill	5th November through to 6th November 2009 between 0900 – 1500 9th November through to 11th November 2009 between 0900 - 1500	Rock Hill, Hawstead Lane, Buck Cross Road, Skibbas Lane, Skeet Hill Lane, Parkgate Road
Butchers Lane, Ash-Cum-Ridley	From West Yoke Road to Chapel Wood Road	25th November 2009 for 3 days 0900 - 1500	West Yoke Road, Chapel Wood Road

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HORN STREET, FOLKESTONE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because defect repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Horn Street, Folkestone from junction of Queens Avenue to the junction of Craythorne Close on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 1 week or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Seabrook Road, Sandgate Esplanade, Sandgate High Street, Military Road and either Risborough Lane and Church Road or Royal Military Avenue and Church Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(THREAD LANE, HERNHILL) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER
2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD
TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because gully cleansing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Thread Lane, Hernhill from Dawes Road to junction with Crockham Lane and Crockham Road on or after 2 November 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days between the hours of 9.00am and 3.00pm or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Dawes Road, Staplestreet Road, Church Hill, Crockham Lane and Crockham Road.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(DODDINGTON LANE, DODDINGTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS
AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway resurfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Doddington Lane, Doddington from the junction of Kingsdown Road to the junction of Downs Court Road on or after 2 November 2009 for an estimated period of 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Downs Court Road, Sawpit Road, Pitstock Road and Kingsdown Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HAWLEY SQUARE, MARGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Hawley Square, Margate from between the Education Centre & Number 16 on or after 19 October 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Hawley Square, Churchfields Place, Churchfields Street, St Johns Street and Addington Street. ME14 1XQ.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(FOADS LANE, CLIFFSEND) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER
2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD
TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because track maintenance repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Foads Lane, Cliffsend at the level crossing on or after 7 November 2009 for an estimated period of 2 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Foads Hill, A299 Canterbury Road West, Lord of the Manor Roundabout, A256 Sandwich Road, Cliffs End Road.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(POORHOLE LANE, BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETERS) (PROHIBITION OF
DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because drainage works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Poorhole Lane, Broadstairs and St Peters outside The Cottage and Westwood Lodge on or after 2nd November 2009 for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Westwood Road and Margate Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(POLICE STATION ROAD, WEST MALLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS
AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Police Station Road, West Malling on or after Monday 19th October 2009 for a period of up to 10 days or until such works are completed.

There is no alternative route for the route described above.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CORNFORD LANE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS
AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Cornford Lane on or after Tuesday 20th October 2009 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via Halls Hole Road, A264 Pembury Road, High Street, Cornford Lane and for westbound traffic vice versa.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for replacing a telegraph pole and cabling works in the area. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Stuart Lane of McNicholas Construction on 01273 494659.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways





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Exciting all-new S60 maps Volvo's future

By **STEVE LOADER**

VOLVO has unveiled the car to catapult it back into the big time – the all-new S60 due next year.

The Ford-owned Swedish marque stresses that pictures released are of a show concept, but be sure that it will get only minor tweaks now before official launch.

What is for certain is the racy four-door coupe styling – an evolution of the current car's lines – should put the heat on German rivals like the BMW 3-Series, Audi A4 and Mercedes-Benz C-Class.

Revamped

These cars should also be under more pressure on the handling front too; a recent first drive of Volvo's revamped S80 showed that Volvo is now closer to the pace on chassis development – a failing of the current S60.

It is also a safe bet that much of the new S60's hidden architecture is shared with the Ford Mondeo, which is no slouch in the handling department.

Concealed rear door handles add to the classy coupe look, increasingly fashionable



in the executive sector and currently championed most obviously by Jaguar's highly-acclaimed XF and the VW Passat CC.

With the sale of Jaguar and Land Rover, Volvo is now the only brand left in the Ford empire's Premier Automotive Group. It was previously the most profitable badge in the PAG, but not enough to quash rumours

that its cash-strapped parent was considering its sale.

Whether that question is posed again may hinge on the S60, which offers good potential for profitability and volume.

Currently, much rests on the revamped 2009 version of the S80 (pictured – inset) which we will road test soon.

A new version of Volvo's long-lived D5 2.4-litre twin turbodiesel delivers 205bhp and is quieter, more frugal and cleaner than before, though an uprated 175bhp version of the old engine continues along with a newly-arrived 109bhp 1.6D diesel entry model (£21,745) for Volvo's ultra-eco DRIVE branding, as well as 2.0 Flexifuel, 2.5T and V8 all-wheel drive petrol models.

This new-look powertrain line-up is also, at last, partnered by a chassis that puts the Volvo flagship on a firmer footing against German opposition.

The sportier set-up is standard on SE and SE Lux models, with a 'Comfort' chassis as a no-cost option or standard fit with Executive trim – we haven't driven the latter version, but if it's anything like the pre-facelift drive then avoid it.

The new standard sporty set-up is impressive though, with notably better damping when cornering.

The facelift has also given the S80 a much cleaner look with revised grille plus bigger Volvo badge, more chrome and a refreshed interior.



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Models featured: (1) Hyundai i20 Style 1.4 5 door (2010 MY) at £11,855 OTR in Sleek Silver metallic paint at £355 included. (2) Hyundai i20 Classic 1.2 3 door (2010 Model Year) at £8,850 OTR in Electric Red solid paint at no extra cost. (3) Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.4 at £9,995 OTR in Shine Red solid paint at no extra cost. Price includes a customer saving of £1,605. Prices shown are On The Road (OTR) and where applicable reflect customer savings discount against manufacturer's recommended OTR price at the time of publication, subject to purchase and registration taking place between 1 October 2009 and 31 December 2009. For details please refer to www.hyundai.co.uk/newCars/03/price or Hyundai's October 2009 price guide, reference: 10/09 HB2729. On the road price (OTR) includes VAT where applicable, delivery, vehicle first registration fee, number plates and 12 months' road fund licence. £300 Part Exchange Allowance is only available on 2010 Model Year Hyundai i20 Classic 1.2 3 & 5 door models. *£500 Part Exchange Allowance is only available on 2010 Model Year Hyundai i20 Comfort 1.2 3 & 5 door, Comfort 1.4 3 & 5 door, Comfort 1.4 Auto 3 & 5 door, Comfort 1.4 CRDi 3 door, Style 1.4 5 door and Style 1.4 CRDi 5 door models. **Part Exchange Allowances.** Participating authorised dealers only. Part Exchange valuations are at dealer's discretion and subject to dealer's applicable terms and conditions. See your dealer for full details. Any Part Exchange Allowance must be claimed prior to completion of purchase. Retrospective claims will not be accepted. No more than one allowance per vehicle bought. All offers are only available to private retail customers on new cars purchased in the UK (but excluding Channel Islands and Isle of Man) for cars purchased and registered between 1 October and 31 December 2009 and sourced through Hyundai Motor UK Ltd or its authorised Dealers. These offers are not available for customers under the Hyundai Affinity Programme or the Government's Scrappage Scheme are subject to availability and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Please see your authorised Hyundai Dealer for full terms and conditions of these offers and other purchase terms. All prices and figures correct at time of publication. Warranty only available on new cars purchased in the UK and sourced from Hyundai Motor UK Limited through its authorised dealers. See your local dealer for full warranty terms and conditions. Terms and conditions apply.

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai i20 Classic 1.2: Urban 44.1 (6.4), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5), Combined 54.3 (5.2), CO 2 Emissions 124g/km. Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai i20 Style 1.4: Urban 37.2 (7.6), Extra Urban 56.5 (5.0), Combined 47.1 (6.0), CO 2 Emissions 142g/km. Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.4: Urban 37.2 (7.6), Extra Urban 54.3 (5.2), Combined 46.3 (6.1), CO 2 Emissions 145g/km.

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The Official Fuel Consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km) for the Suzuki Grand Vitara Range are: Urban 10.5 - 14.4 (26.9 - 19.6), Extra Urban 7.5 - 8.3 (37.7 - 34.0), Combined 8.6 - 10.6 (32.8 - 26.7) and CO2 205 - 245 (g/km). All offers and vehicles offered are subject to availability while stocks last. Please note models portrayed are for illustration purposes only. Details correct at time of going to print.

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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

RAV's extra drive helps it maintain premium status



THREE generations on from the 1994 original, Toyota has launched a newly-revised third generation RAV4 using impressive Toyota Optimal Drive engines.

The world's No1 carmaker has applied powertrain technology already seen to deliver more power and sheer 'grunt' yet also offer lower emissions and consumption – a 'win, win' that hard-pressed consumers find hard to resist.

Toyota also decided to return to the market with a front-wheel drive only economy version, having ditched the innovation after slow sales on this option with the second generation RAV.

Underlining the premium positioning of the RAV these days though, is Toyota's decision to offer just two highly-spec'd trim levels – XT-R and SR – with alloys, leather, Bluetooth, dual-zone climate control, auto headlights and wipers, heated front seats and keyless 'Smart Entry and Start' as standard.

Prices start at £18,995 for the new front-wheel drive car, but you'll need a weighty £3,400 extra if you still must have 4x4.



...and Toyota hints at return of the coupe

TOYOTA has been preoccupied with hybrids and greener technology of late, but coupe fans may soon celebrate a long overdue replacement for the Celica... and more.

For the FT-86 looks like a genuine attempt to create a halo model for the Toyota badge: it is a five-seater using the classic sports car rear-wheel drive configuration for balanced handling, then complemented by a 2.0-litre 'boxer' engine.

The powerplant's horizontally-opposed cylinders allow the engine to sit lower for better weight distribution on cornering – a long-time Subaru speciality.

It is only a concept, but Toyota badly needs a bit of glamour again to balance the virtuous Prius and new IQ city car.

Ruff 'n' tuff vans



SOMETIMES vans have to get through sticky situations and bad weather to deliver the goods.

But operators don't always want the expense of running a 4x4 version, hence the decision by Citroën and Fiat to offer extra rugged conventional van derivatives.

Both the Citroën Berlingo XTR+ and Fiat Fiorino Traction + use a limited slip differential on their front driving wheels in order to get

to places everyday models couldn't normally reach.

When grip on one wheel is lost, much of its power is automatically transferred to the other. Operators expected to make use of these rough, tough models would be in the utility, forestry, construction and agricultural sectors.

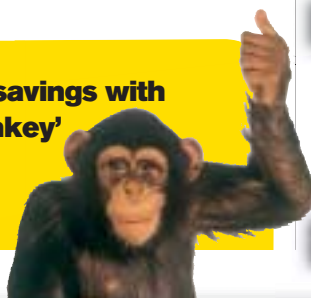
Berlingo XTR+ prices start at £14,160 and the smaller Fiorino Traction + from £9,655, both excluding VAT.

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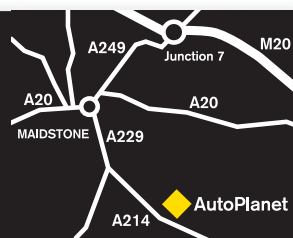


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by
STEVELOADER

PEUGEOT is poised to launch its most potent model for some time in terms of new conquest sales and versatility.

The Peugeot 3008 goes head to head with Nissan's highly successful niche-busting Qashqai crossover and will revitalise the French marque's sales.

Demand in Europe is already ahead of projections, explaining why UK showrooms won't see the newcomer until early November – some weeks later than expected.

The wait will be worth it though.

Priced from £15,995 to £21,895, the 3008 is sized and priced between Peugeot's 308 family hatchback and its flagship 308SW estate cum MPV spin-off.

Dealers say it's just what they needed to satisfy some existing customers and attract new ones; there have been rumblings apparently about business lost to sister brand Citroën and its big-selling Picasso MPVs.

Tradition

Personally, I have always admired Peugeot's adherence to SW or 'super estate' versions of cars like the 307 and 308, which included seven-seat options and upheld a tradition of roomy cars for the rural French market.

It was also a point of difference with Citroën, not to mention Renault, but 'if you can't beat 'em, then join 'em' is the new attitude, so we now have the 3008 – both MPV and SUV in function and appearance – joined in January by the sleek new 5008 seven-seater (from £16,895) to the Vauxhall Zafira, Citroën C4 Grand Picasso and the Renault Grand Scenic.

Back to the 3008 and closer inspection shows that it breaks the mould for Peugeot in so many other ways too.

Peugeot's new niche buster arrives at last



CROSSOVER APPEAL: Peugeot is set to tackle rival Nissan Qashqai with this impressive and versatile 3008, priced from a reasonable £15,995

Classy exterior looks are matched by an interior that takes Peugeot's drive upmarket even higher than we have seen lately on 308 series models; materials quality is top notch and the harmony of design creates a cockpit feel about the front seats and dashboard and optional fighter-plane style head-up display for the speedo and distance alert.

Load-carrying versatility is excellent, with easily folded seats in the roomy rear compartment and a boot with three-position shelf.

The car also drives well; the Qashqai's success has been built on excellent driving characteristics for a high-riding car as well as its

ability to be a 'Swiss Army Knife' with multiple functions.

You would need a head-to-head test to find out which is best, but the Peugeot certainly tackles its key rival across the board except with a 4x4 option.

But Peugeot has not ignored this weakness in the eyes of, admittedly, a few would-be buyers.

It will offer 4x4 capability and more later by launching the marque's first hybrid and probably the market's first to feature a diesel engine paired with electric motors – the latter will drive the rear wheels for better grip and traction on rough fields and when towing and also save weight over a conventional 4x4.

In the meantime, buyers can specify Grip Control (£450) on all 3008s; it's an advanced traction control system allied to special mud and snow tyres that mimics a modest 4x4 or 'soft roader'.

The driver is offered five settings, including snow, off-road (mud, dirt or wet grass) and sand. To prove its effectiveness, Peugeot used a 3008 with a 150bhp 1.6-litre petrol engine to launch a glider (see video on Motors TV at www.carsforkent.co.uk).

This new petrol engine, by the way, is yet another new-generation unit that shows how carmakers are redressing the balance against diesel.

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Some eyesores on latest

DrivingReview



by
STEVELOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

RenaultScenic

RENAULT would love us to believe that buying its Scenic compact MPV implies every journey will be a sensory pleasure – the 'scenic route'.

And there is much about the new third generation car to uphold that, but some scenery jars on the senses.

The cabin on the five-seat version tested is spacious and enhanced by a big glazed area.

And our upmarket 2.0 dCi 160 Dynamique 'Tom Tom' model (£21,005) had a sunroof to the front and a glassy rear roof, adding to the virtual open-air feel of the car.

However, the dashboard is one of the ugliest

you will see and cabin materials are generally off the pace.

A long hood over an uninspiring and penny-pinching centre-mounted digital display also fails to prevent some reflection on the screen of a much-vaunted factory-fitted sat nav that adds £350 to the price.

This system, developed with aftermarket sat nav leader Tom Tom to provide an admittedly more affordable alternative to often expensive yet inferior units fitted by carmakers, is a brave effort.

However, the excellent Tom-Tom touch-

screen – the brand's big selling point – is replaced by a clunky and unnecessary interface on the centre console. Just buy a portable Tom Tom and save a few hundred quid.

The sound system – apart from the excellent French-style steering column mounted controls – is also typically and needlessly complicated; surely, in this day and age, you should not have to refer to the manual just to perform the simplest tasks?

Fortunately though, as with the occasional eyesore on a long journey, such niggles should disappear with long-term ownership and

familiarity, leaving a better overall view of the latest Scenic launched in the summer.

For the car is sharply styled for an MPV – though the competition is also improving all the time – and has a wide tailgate for easy loading.

Flexibility is top notch; the three rear seats fold and slide easily, although I did receive some earache about the comfort levels when I took the family out... though I probably was driving too enthusiastically.

To be fair to the Scenic, I think its big virtue would be long distance cruising with a full load.



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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km) for the 107 range are: Urban 51.3 (5.5), Extra Urban 72.4-68.8 (3.9-4.1), Combined 62.7-61.4 (4.5-4.6), CO₂ 107-106 (g/km) for the 207 range are: Urban 49.5-28.5 (5.7-9.9), Extra Urban 76.3-49.5 (3.7-5.7), Combined 64.2-39.2 (4.4-7.2), CO₂ 171 - 99 (g/km) for the 308 range are: Urban 49.5-24.78 (5.7-11.4), Extra Urban 74.34-47.08 (3.8-6.0), Combined 62.7-35.76 (4.5-7.9), CO₂ 188-120 (g/km).

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scenic route



Few family users would complain about the location of three 12v sockets arranged to the front, middle and rear – the one in midships is actually mounted on the centre rear seat and perfect for plugging in games consoles, DVD players and so on.

A large sliding centre console and four

under-floor lockers add to the huge amount of stowage; unlike some rivals, this is an MPV that can carry people plus a lot of their luggage.

The refined 160bhp 2.0 diesel is also a delight, though using its ample power for sporty driving reveals a suspension better suited to the comfort requirements of a fully laden MPV rather than supermini antics.

Mainstream Scenic prices start from £13,595 and seven-seat Grand Scenic versions are available for a £1,500 premium.

This makes the car pretty competitive, but it has its work cut out in seeking to claw back the leadership it once had in the mid-MPV sector.

It was one created by the original Scenic, itself a scaled down follow-up from Renault's pioneering Espace 'people carrier'.

Unfortunately, the brand's trendy French arch-rival Citroën then picked up the mid-MPV ball and ran with it after creating the Xsara Picasso, which went on to outsell the Scenic.

The Renault has a lot of ground to make up.

DrivingPortfolio

RENAULT SCENIC 2.0 DCI 160 DYNAMIQUE (TOM TOM MODEL) £21,005 (SCENIC PRICES FROM £14,395)

Driving appeal	★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green	★★★
Road tax	£175/year
Best rival	Citroën C4 Picasso

The Verdict



DON'T LIKE:

the clunky looking and poorly-finished dashboard – the 'créateur d'automobiles' should do better



NOT SURE:

many buyers will see any advantage in specifying the 'affordable' factory-fitted sat nav



REALLY LIKE:

the Scenic's overall functionality and levels of comfort – exactly what's needed from an MPV

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2005 05 SAAB 9-3 1.8T Linear Sport, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners. Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Multi function steering wheel, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Reverse parking aid, Part Service History, Air conditioning, Climate Control, Park distance control.**£7,495**

2002 52 Reg SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 69,000 miles, Steel Grey, ABS, Alloy wheels, Full Electric Pack, Cruise control, Park distance control, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Leather upholstery, Metallic paintwork, Tinted glass.**£5,495**

2001 01 SAAB 9-3 2.2 TID SE, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 108,298 miles, Black, 2 Owners, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, ABS, Leather seat trim, Air conditioning, Cruise control, Climate control, Trip computer, Full Electric Pack, Full Service History, Multi function steering wheel, Remote locking, Anti theft system.**£3,595**

2002 51 Reg SAAB 9-5 2.3T, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, 105,000 miles, Blue, 3 Owners, ABS, Air condition, Full Electric Pack, Alloy wheels, Anti theft system, CD, Central locking, Computer, Multi function steering wheel, Remote central locking, Roof rails, Cloth upholstery, Full Service History, Immobiliser**£3,495**

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'Property market has weathered the storm'

By **ANDY ROGERS**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT'S property market not only dispelled clouds of recession in 2008-09, but showed some warm fronts.

That is according to the 2009 Kent Property Market Report, launched to nearly 200 property professionals at Ashford International Hotel this week. High points in a challenging economic climate were stable office rental values – up 0.4 per cent against a UK average of -3.8 per cent – a 0.9 per cent increase in retail rental values, and strong demand for rural properties.

The report generated by Kent County Council and property expert Cluttons LLP for the investment promotion agency Locate in Kent, reviewed property performance and deals in Kent for the financial year April, 2008-March, 2009.

For the first time in its history, the report looked at rural properties as well as the county's residential, retail, tourism and regeneration programmes.

Findings highlighted how Kent's lack of dependence on any single sector could be a strength, while also pointing to demand for space from companies in manufacturing, transport and logistics, construction and property.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "This report shows that Kent is resilient and coming out of this recession fighting. Kent has fared well in comparison with the rest of the UK."

"KCC sees regeneration as a major responsibility. We will continue to invest in roads, schools and schemes such as those in Thameside. And as a county we must take full advantage of the opportunities presented by the arrival of high-speed rail services."

Picture: ADY KERRY



ON TRACK: Full high-speed train services to London from December are expected to boost Kent's growth and investment



REPORT: Cover features Deal pier's amazing new restaurant

While demand for larger business premises has declined due to a trend towards downsizing in the recession, the report picks out several key commercial deals and developments:

- Balfour Beatty Mott MacDonald moving into Kings Hill, near Maidstone.
- Girne American University buying 9 St George's Place, Canterbury.
- Smiths Medical International leasing space at Eureka Park, Ashford.

- Completion of industrial space at Schooner Park in Dartford and Parkwood, Maidstone.
- First for Foodservice's opening of a distribution hub in Sittingbourne, with Morrisons also acquiring a unit in the same town.

Regeneration projects have also boosted Kent's outlook, particularly Kent Thameside, part of the Thames Gateway, Europe's largest regeneration project.

Some 6,900 companies are already doing business in Thameside, where 25,000 new homes and 50,000 jobs are planned within 25 years. Ashford's growth area development strategy is progressing, notably with planning approval for Victoria Way, a new road to improve access to the station and town centre.

The fast-expanding former market town is expected to be a major beneficiary from full



MODERN TIMES: The growth town of Ashford will benefit from faster trains

high-speed rail services to London from December. The report also showed that Locate in Kent had played its part in maintaining the county's economic momentum; the body exceeded its 2008-09 investment targets, assisting 76 companies to relocate or expand in Kent and Medway and using nearly three times as much square footage as in 2007-08.

Locate in Kent chief executive Paul Wookey said: "During the year, Locate in Kent recorded 246 new projects, representing an increase on last year, further proving that interest in Kent from UK and international investors remains strong."

"We will continue to target high-growth and high-value sectors, including financial and business services, software infrastructure technologies, life sciences and environmental technologies."

"We want to tap into the Government's growth ambitions and Kent has a key role to play in helping the UK reach its full potential as a world-class leader in environmental technologies. The Thanet offshore wind farm, London Array and Little Cheyne Court wind farm are testament to Kent's ambition."

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Concrete action by test-bed Kent firms cuts landfill

Making constructive use of waste matter

By **ANDY ROGERS**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THEY say "where there's muck, there's brass" and it's never been more true than now as the UK gets to grips with recycling, reusing and remaking.

And Kent has been the test bed for three innovative new products from the partnership between Remade South East and Ashford's Future.

Ashford is one of the nation's fastest growing towns and set to double in size by 2031 with 31,000 new homes created and a £2.5 billion investment programme.

Remade South East has highlighted case studies, drawn up sustainable construction product 'playing cards' and compiled a construction waste recycling directory, all to help developers design waste out of projects where possible and recycle the unavoidable.

Andrew Kent, project manager at Remade South East said: "We wanted to show how small, easy-to-adopt practices can be implemented by construction companies, resulting in significant and immediate environmental and financial savings, benefiting the construction companies themselves and the Ashford community."

Case studies draw on the experiences of three participating construction companies – Directline Structures, GSE Group and Hillreed Homes – all of which contributed towards diverting 1,600 tonnes away from landfill during one year and generating landfill tax savings of over £50,000.

Another study outlines how Remade South



CRUSHING: Recycling waste concrete for use by Hillreed Homes in Ashford

East produced a site waste management plan for Directline Structures, which was building an office block at Orbital Business Park.

Jonathan Morton, design manager at Directline Structures said: "Directline Structures design sustainability into all our projects at an early stage, but working with Remade South East helped us minimise our waste, including recycling six tonnes of plasterboard and reusing 60 tonnes of stone and soil onsite."

The sustainable product playing cards spotlight quality construction products that are

also sourced sustainably and energy efficiently and can replace conventional building materials; they include sheep-wool insulation, wet and hydraulic limes and rainwater harvesting systems.

Laurienne Tibbles, sustainability manager for Ashford's Future, said: "We hope these case studies and product cards will encourage construction companies to take positive steps to reducing the amount of construction waste sent to landfill. By addressing their construction waste, companies will be contributing to the sustainable development of Ashford."

■ **ASHFORD-based market research firm Facts International is bucking the recession, with a recruitment drive following new business wins.**

Its call centre at Henwood has increased capacity from 80 to 121 call stations and chief executive, Crispin Beale said: "In a time of recession and high unemployment, it's great to buck the trend and take on new staff. But we've been surprised that even in this economic climate it is still a challenge to find the right people to join our team."

Facts International undertakes face-to-face, online and call-centre research for its clients, who range from major UK and global companies, to leading research agencies.

The firm has been based in Ashford for 25 years, but expanded fast since joining global marketing services group Chime Communications in 2007.

■ **THREE Kent companies have scooped awards for excellence in the oil heating and cooking sector.**

Technicians Paul Hadlow of Maidstone's Roger Ward Ltd and Ian Ballard of Tenterden's IB Heating & Plumbing, and Swanley's Piper Assessment – a local training and assessment centre – all received awards at the Oil-Firing Technical Association (Oftec) Awards for Excellence.

Paul received a silver in the Oil Boiler Installer of the Year category, Ian received bronze in Trainee of the Year and company representative Steve Wright from Piper accepted a bronze in Training Centre of the Year category and silver in Green Initiative of the Year.

Now in their seventh year, the awards recognise high standards and dedication to consumers.

■ **DESPITE this week's optimism about an end to the recession, HSBC Insurance has said the country is not out of the woods yet.**

"Both the Nationwide and Halifax measures of house prices have been creeping up over the summer and while an end of recession in the UK is to be welcomed, it is only the first step in the recovery process," said HSBC economist Dennis Turner.

"For all the growing optimism there's nervousness that there is still bad news to come. Access to credit, possible public spending cuts and inflation all has the capacity to turn initial recovery into a false dawn. We are not out of the woods yet."

HSBC identifies five crucial steps for financial cushioning:

- Review finances and seek professional advice.
- Reduce debt levels.
- Don't slash insurances as a knee-jerk reaction.
- Continue with a pension.
- Insure against loss of income, health, job etc.

■ **COLD-shouldered by the High Street banks, a fledgling Kent business has received new funding from Venture Finance.**


After being turned down for a conventional overdraft, specialist design and print house, Stone Media Print of Lympne, tried Venture's Fast Track Factoring service launched this summer and aiming to fund applications within a week.

Stone Media MD Nick Henry called the funding option "a breath of fresh air" adding: "Getting access to funding as quickly as this is crucial for the success of our young business. We should have come to Venture in the first place."

Fast Track Factoring is available to businesses with a turnover of up to £2m and Venture Finance is part of the Dutch Government-owned ABN AMRO group.

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Radar spend on horizon under airport's upgrade

KENT International Airport is investing more than £2 million in secondary surveillance radar (SSR) equipment.

The two-year project is part of a four-year upgrade programme by the New Zealand-based owner of the Thanet airport, Infratil, and follows improved direction finding equipment, airport information management systems (AIMS), meteorological sensors and radar screens.

The SSR investment is on top of £10m spent so far and the equipment will replace an externally provided service and supplement information from the airport's existing primary radar.

The system relays location, speed, travel direction and height of aircraft and the SSR is also part of activities designed to ensure the airport's radar coverage is not affected by offshore wind farms.

KIA chief executive Matt Clarke said: "We are focused on delivering a world-class airport with world-class service, equipment and facilities."



READY FOR TAKE-OFF: KIA chief executive Matt Clarke

Bond bug is back with a bang – and glossy new look

CUE the John Barry brass and a silhouette of the man with the Walther PPK pistol and sharply-cut suit – Bond is back, in the form of 007 Magazine, *writes Andy Rogers*.

This long-running publication is on sale again by popular demand from its readership, said its Kent-based editor and publisher, Graham Rye. "The magazine started as a typed news sheet in the 1970s and grew into a lavish and glossy international publication selling to subscribers in 40 countries by the late 1990s," said Graham.



"But production costs had soared by 2005 and I adopted the perceived wisdom of the time, turning it into an online subscription operation, allowing people to read and

download material as required.

"But I reckoned without the desire of real Bond enthusiasts to have something collectable – you only have to look at what back issues sometimes command on eBay to appreciate that.

"So 007 Magazine is back, although people can still subscribe and read online via www.007magazine.co.uk and enjoy other features there."

The latest magazine issue, number 51, costs £9.99 and only 1,000 copies have been produced.

Features include expert assessment of current Bond incumbent Daniel Craig and unseen illustrations from what became Never Say Never Again – the remake of Thunderball that returned Sean Connery as 007, though Graham remarks: "Sadly I always think of that film as Don't Bother Again."

Conversation with Graham quickly shows his encyclopaedic knowledge of the Bond genre, from Ian Fleming's original books to the successful film series produced by Cubby Broccoli and Harry Saltzman's EON Productions. He also has a collection of images that rival EON's own.

"I caught the Bond bug in 1962 when my dad took me to see Dr No [EON's first Bond film] in Southall [west London] where I was born and grew up," said Graham, 58, who now lives in Lydd – his father grew up in Kent.

"Dr No was completely different. All TV and most British films were black and white in those days, yet here was a slick movie about a British secret agent in glorious colour. It was like being hit in the face with a brick for an impressionable 11-year-old."

He also devoured Fleming's stories about the spy with a 'licence to kill': "I think Fleming suffered from his books being underrated by the literary world then and now, possibly because of the success of the films, but I would urge anyone to go back and read them again and enjoy the way he builds excitement so economically – perfect for a film script, really."

Graham left school at 16 to pursue a career in graphic art and design, starting as an ad studio messenger boy in the West End before getting his chance at the drawing board, but his interest in Bond never wavered. His memorabilia and photographic hobby grew into a £200,000-a-year 007 business phenomenon by the late



MASTERMIND: Graham Rye, above, on 007's movie career:

- **Best Bond:** 'Sean Connery. But Daniel Craig has brought back the edge that the early films had and the new films needed.'
- **Best Bond girl:** 'The first – Ursula Andress. Who can forget when she strolls from the surf in Dr. No? Honor Blackman [Goldfinger] was great, too.'
- **Best Bond film:** 'A toss-up between From Russia With Love and On Her Majesty's Secret Service.'
- **Best Bond villain:** 'Goldfinger – no question.'



LUCKY NUMBER: Graham Rye at the roulette wheel with his favourite Bond girl, Ursula Andress

'90s. "I dealt in Bond memorabilia – everything under the sun – and had a staff of three working with me at my base in Woking when the business was at its peak and the biggest of its kind in the world, but eBay destroyed it almost overnight," said Graham, who reports that the record price for a single Bond prop in auction (at Christie's) was £62,000 for the bowler hat worn by Goldfinger's henchman Oddjob, once part of the 007 Magazine archive.

He then consolidated his business around the magazine and another Bond spin-off, The James Bond Girls – an upmarket glossy hardback produced annually from 1989-99.

"EON didn't really want to get involved with 007 Magazine when it started in the '70s," said Graham. "Nobody had foreseen what a film franchise could really become in those days. Amazingly, their press people would happily send out original negatives and transparencies, and interviews and other material were relatively easy to source."

"That's all changed, of course. James Bond – Licence to Kill has become James Bond – Licence to Print Money – and is now very jealously guarded."

He is fairly tight-lipped about his relationship with EON, known to wield its legal stick freely, but added, with just a hint of 007 steel: "We are the original and the best, and we're back."



BEST BOND: Sean Connery is Graham's favourite



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How Sheps keeps its

BREWER and pub operator Shepherd Neame put 'For Sale' signs on some 35 under-performing pubs as it faced up to the recession.

But the Faversham-based brewery – established in 1698 and the UK's oldest – is weathering the downturn better than most of the beer and pub industry, according to newly-announced annual results.

Sales in both managed and tenanted pubs are up and beer volumes are also growing, with the licence-brewed Japanese Asahi Super Dry being its best performer.

But Sheps says overall results were dragged down by higher costs and the poor performance of smaller pubs – the 10 per cent of the estate being axed.

Of these, 13 properties are already sold or under contract to be sold for a total of £3.4 million, but the company also acquired 13 properties from major pub chain Punch for £14.8m during the financial year.

A spokesman said: "We have bought a number of well-performing pubs recently so are having to sell to make up the deficit. It is not unusual for us to buy and sell every year, but maybe it is not usually done in this quantity.

"These are tough times for the industry as a whole, so seen in that light the figures for trading are not bad at all."

Company turnover rose 7.7 per cent to £109.5m on trading up to June 27 – year end



AWARD WINNER: Bottle of Britain campaign

covered by the results – but higher raw material, production and overhead costs caused operating profits to fall 12.7 per cent to £9.5m.

Sales in the 49 managed pubs rose 1.6 per



KENT'S TIPPLE: Sheps' Faversham home

cent, while 331 tenanted pubs were up 0.4 per cent.

But the effect of the recession showed in the rising amount of bottled beer within the overall 6.3 per cent growth in beer volumes, caused by customers electing to drink at home rather than visit a pub.

Asahi Super Dry, Spitfire, Whitstable Bay and Masterbrew led a 29 per cent hike in Sheps' bottled beer, which should gain in profitability from a new bottling system now going on-line.

This growth is despite a fall in the company's once thriving export of bottled beers to French hypermarkets, which UK tourists brought back by the car and coachload.

"The cross-Channel business has declined due to consumer habits changing, driven



EASTERN PROMISE: Asahi Super Dry

largely by a more competitive domestic market," said a spokesman.

"More recently, it has also been affected by the weaker pound. However, sales in France are developing outside of the cross-Channel Calais market into their wider domestic mar-

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No dispute about Stuart's role in Vertex Law team

TEAM PLAYER: Stuart Love with his new colleagues in the dispute resolution team, from left, Louise Worton, Elizabeth Bentley, Rebecca Tatham and Sandra Puttock

KINGS Hill-based Vertex Law's busy dispute resolution team has been boosted by the appointment of Stuart Love.

Mr Love is relocating from Birmingham to join the team which helps commercial clients resolve business disputes through negotiation or, if that fails, through mediation or litigation.

Rebecca Tatham, head of dispute Resolution at Vertex, said: "The growth of our service hasn't been hindered by the difficult financial climate.

"It's hard to say whether it has actually contributed to our growth, but we're certainly very busy.

"We pride ourselves on direct communica-

tion, speed of response, accessibility and our strength of analysis, and we aim to deliver cost-effective results."

Ms Tatham said Vertex Law met a large number of candidates before appointing Mr Love as they wanted to ensure the role was filled by someone who would share their "passion and commitment".

"Stuart fits the bill perfectly," she said.

Mr Love is keen to hit the ground running: "When I met Rebecca it was clear to me that we had very similar ideas about how dispute resolution services could and should be provided to commercial clients," he said.

"The opportunity to join such an energetic, forward-thinking firm was too good to miss."

head in a crisis

ket. France is but a small part of a strengthening export business."

Chairman Miles Templeman said: "This has been a year of strong sales and significant achievement, but we have incurred high short-term costs which have resulted in lower profit."

"However, we expect operating margin to improve in 2009-10. Our strategy is to build a strong integrated beer and pub business."

"The strength of our balance sheet has enabled us to invest through the downturn which has presented an excellent opportunity to acquire 15 high-quality pubs at attractive prices."

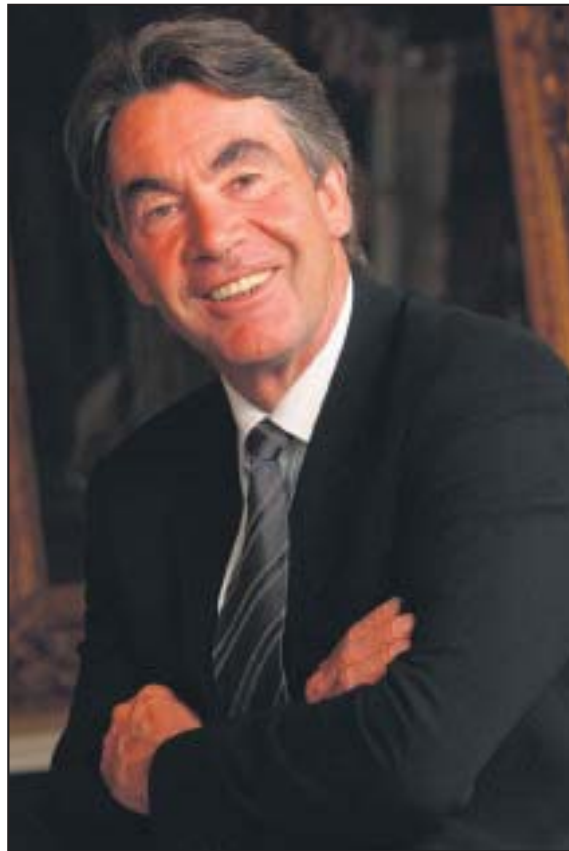
"We have also completed the modernisation programme of our production and distribution facilities. Although the general short-term

'This has been a year of strong sales, but high short-term costs'

Sheps chairman Miles Templeman

economic outlook is uncertain, we have made an encouraging start to the year, with strong beer volumes and like-for-like sales growth.

"We remain confident in the quality of our pub estate, the strength of our brands, our overall market position and our future prospects."



CONFIDENT: Shepherd Neame chairman Miles Templeman

ORGANIC GROWTH: Whitstable Bay helped the brewer's bottled sales climb 29 per cent



IT HAS been a tough couple of years for the brewing and pub trade, yet Shepherd Neame has maintained profits and laid down a clear – even ruthless – strategy, writes Andy Rogers.

Rather than estate growth for the sake of it – a policy that has brought grief to many bigger operators – Sheps is pursuing a shape-up-or-ship-out approach; pubs have come and pubs have gone this year as Kent's own brewer expands across Sussex, London and Essex.

Once seen – unfairly it seems – as

COMMENT

a conservative local brewer in the shadow of the major players, Sheps grasped the opportunity offered by big brewers' pub disposals after the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report two decades ago, carefully switching its estate from predominantly wet (beer) trade outlets to more upmarket and flexible operations including award-winning gastropubs.

And the company has created a grand stage for its traditional bitters, helped by eye-catching campaigns such as the Bottle of Britain ads for its Spitfire brand.

Shrewd licensing deals have also brought in 'icon' brands such as Asahi Super Dry – its fastest growing bottled beer – and the Indian restaurant staple, Kingfisher.

It also has a wide array of draught lagers such as German Holsten Export, Dutch Oranjeboom, and its long-running Hurlimann brand from Switzerland.

Insurance postcode lottery

MANY things these days seem to come down to your postcode and some of them are widely publicised, such as the type of service available to you on the NHS.

Over the last couple of decades, as insurers have become more sophisticated in their underwriting techniques, your postcode has also affected what level of house insurance premium you can get, or the price of your car insurance premium.

This postcode lottery is so exact that there can even be subtle differences based on which side of a road you may be on.

The life insurance industry is currently trialing postcode underwriting.

So if you live in an area where



By **LIZ RULE**
Pharon Independent
Financial Advisers Ltd

mortality rates are low, it's probable you may live longer and so may benefit from a cheaper premium.

On the other hand, if mortality rates are high you could present a bigger risk and your premium may be loaded as a result.

Unfortunately, statistically, the less money people have, the more likely they will be living in a deprived area, which means insurers may in future be making life

insurance more expensive for those who can least afford it.

Some of these people are also statistically less likely to have jobs that provide life insurance as a benefit. They are also more likely to have financial dependants and need protection the most.

Firstly, as life insurance is such an important issue, I recommend that if you have not had a review of your protection requirements for a few years, that you do so.

Secondly, I recommend you use an independent financial adviser and check with them whether your application is affected by postcode.

Ask them if it's possible to choose an insurer where you can be underwritten based on your individual lifestyle and health.

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until
OD: Other details

FIXED

WOOLWICH

RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/01/2012
OD: £1,329

MORTGAGE BOX ITL

RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.89% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/03/2011
OD: £1,184

MARSDEN

RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.19% **L:** 70% **U:** 30/11/2011
OD: £1,123

ABBEY

RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 02/01/2012
OD: £1,030

OTHER

ABBEY

RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 3 YEARS
OD: £1,030

DARLINGTON

RT: DISCOUNTED VARIABLE **R%:** 3.15% **L:** 70%
U: 30/11/2011 **OD:** £1,320

NORTHERN ROCK

RT: TRACKER **R%:** 32.89% **L:** 70% **U:** 01/11/2011
OD: £1,030

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER

RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 3 YEARS
OD: £1,305

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LV=	£22.02
BRIGHT GREY	£22.11
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PRUPROTECT	£23.50

FEMALE AGED 30

PIONEER	£21.39
LV=	£36.38
BRIGHT GREY	£37.27
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£39.49
AEGON SCOT EQ	£39.85

MALE AGED 40

PIONEER	£27.21
LV=	£32.65
BRIGHT GREY	£33.07
AVIVA	£33.25
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£33.45

FEMALE AGED 40

PIONEER	£35.20
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Timeline

Kent on Sunday sport takes a look back at the county's sporting action of yesteryear

1909

100 YEARS AGO: THERE were signs that the established order was being swept away after an FA Cup weekend in which former finalists the Royal Engineers were beaten 5-1 by Kent League champions Northfleet United, the Sappers suffering the backlash from Northfleet's shock defeat the previous week at home to Sheppey.

The Engineers were lagging a long way behind New Brompton and also Chatham, with whom they would eventually merge. The Chats won 2-1 on a heavy surface at Maidstone United to reach the next round.

A mile or so down the road from Northfleet's ground their future partners – but then bitter rivals Gravesend United – known as the Shrimpers, were held to a drab 1-1 draw by Royal Navy Depot. The correspondent concluded: "Either the public of Gravesend are not what might be called sporting – or interest in the town club is on the wane."

1959

50 YEARS AGO: SO exasperated were Maidstone United's supporters by their team's start to the season they wrote an open letter begging for the club to appoint a coach.

"Why is the pitch treated as a sacred plot?" they asked, (if only they had, their present day counterparts might be reflecting).

"We know it is nice, but we do not come to see the grass grow. Let the team get on the pitch and train. Maidstone must be the only club in the country that keeps its pitch as a showpiece and does not train on it."

The standard of play was also criticised. "Surely someone can be trained to place the ball in the corner of the net, on the ground and not blaze it over the crossbar. An Isthmian League side should not be flabbergasted when a penalty is awarded, so much so that the players look at each other with an 'after you George' expression." All this after Roy Fillery missed a penalty against St Albans City.



TALKS: Chris Tavaré lost the Kent captaincy to Chris Cowdrey

1984

25 YEARS AGO: CHRIS Tavaré, bitterly disappointed at losing the captaincy of Kent to Chris Cowdrey, was set for talks with club officials to discuss his playing future at St Lawrence.

And can you guess the identity of the local football manager who made the following statement? "Yes, I ranted and raved because in this game, as a manager, you can only say please and thank you for so long."

"Well, I've stopped saying please and thank you and from now on there will be a different approach."

A duly terrified Maidstone side heeded Bill Williams' words and fought back from 2-0 down at home to Enfield to earn a point, Billy Hughes and Jon Sille sparing them from Williams' wrath at full time.

FRONTRUNNER: Mike Coleman (leading) won his sixth Kent Cross Country title this year and is now aiming for the World Championships in Poland. Picture: IGOR KUPCO



Coleman eyes world championship chance

By **TOM HOWARD**

ADOPTING a relaxed approach is how Kent cross-country runner Mike Coleman intends to finally reach his ultimate goal of competing at the World Championships this season.

The 31-year-old is one of the county's most successful cross-country runners with six consecutive Kent Cross Country titles to his name, but this season Coleman is hoping to go one step further.

The Medway & Maidstone runner is gearing up for the new cross-country season and has already set himself a number of targets, with his

priority being a coveted place in the World Championships in Poland next March.

Last season was one of Coleman's most successful to date with a convincing victory to clinch his sixth county championship, and he came within seconds of securing a medal after finishing fourth at the South of England Championships in Aldershot.

Intense

After missing out on the World Championships last year, Coleman, from Dover, believes a less intense approach could be the key to success at the World Trials in Nottingham next March.

He said: "I don't really see this year as being an important one and I am trying a different approach this season. In the past I have focused too hard on running and it has led to injuries."

"This year I am still focused on what I want to achieve, but I am taking a bit of a relaxed approach. Obviously the World Championships are a target for me and it would be great to be in a position to get involved in that."

Although Coleman has six consecutive Kent Cross Country titles, the annual event at Detling in January, is still an integral part of his season.

He said: "Winning the county championships is a target for me. I am desperate to equal Barry Royden's record of eight titles, but I have still got a way to go to do that."

Coleman looks in ominous form ahead of the cross-country season after winning the Givauden Ashford 10k race last weekend for the fourth time. His Kent cross-country season will begin with a race in Swanley on November 8.

Lydden retains Euro rallycross stage

LYDDEN Hill has beaten off competition from Austria and Norway to host a round of the European Rallycross Championship next year.

The Kent circuit, known as the 'home of rallycross', hosted the opening round of this year's European championship after a 14-year absence from the series.

After the success of the event, motorsport governing body, the FIA, has decided to keep Lydden on the 2010 calendar.

A record crowd of 15,000 flocked to the circuit in April, which was won by 13-time European champion Kenneth Hansen.

Instead of hosting the opening round as it did this year, the circuit, near Dover, will host round three of the championship on Monday, May 30. The British Rallycross Championship meeting will now take place on the Easter Bank Holiday weekend.



COMPETITION: Lydden beat off a number of foreign tracks to stage the European Rallycross

Circuit managing director Amy Doran is delighted Lydden has been included on the calendar and said there is a possibility of securing a three-year contract with the series.

She said: "It's brilliant to be able to host it again, especially after all the hard work we have

put in last year. There were some really strong contenders to host it and we were a little worried we wouldn't make it on the calendar."

"The FIA were very impressed with the event we put on last year. I hope we can put on an even better event this year."

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Wheels come off cycling park

Funding for world-class £6m facility rejected by Sport England

By **FRED ATKINS**

PLANS to build a multi-million pound cycling park next to the A2 at Gravesend suffered a set-back this week when it was revealed that Sport England had turned down an application for funding.

Kent County Council applied for £6 million from Sport England's Sustainable Facilities Fund, but its initial bid was rejected, meaning the original plans for a world-class facility with all-weather road circuits, mountain bike trails and a BMX track may have to be scaled down.

Neither the council nor Sport England were prepared to comment on specific reasons for refusing the bid, but project manager Laurence Tricker said the it was still very much alive and that he was due for further negotiations with Sport England.

"We're revising our bid and I'm still opti-



DOWNSIZED: Funding rejection means smaller version of cycling park is more likely

mistic that something will happen," he said. "Sport England have indicated their support in principle and we're going back to them at the end of the month to discuss it."

The scheme has attracted high-profile support from Ashford's Olympic champion Jamie Staff and the former Tour de France yellow jersey wearer David Millar.

However, competition for funding was

always likely to be intense and a spokesman for Sport England admitted this contributed to the decision, along with the size of the bid, which, had it been successful, would have taken up 60 per cent of this year's Sustainable Facilities Fund.

"The whole fund for this year is worth £10m and we had a total of 69 applications, making bids worth a total of £42m,

so it was heavily oversubscribed," he said. "But it was a good project and we'll be working with all the people who were turned down to look at alternative methods of funding."

He confirmed that KCC would also be able to submit a second bid.

When the scheme was unveiled in August, Tricker told Kent on Sunday there was a Plan B in the event of a rejection.

With £5m of funds already in place, courtesy of KCC, the Homes and Community Agency, and British Cycling, some of the facilities are still likely to be built and there was some good news this week, when planning permission was given for the park's showpiece pavilion.

The building, designed by the Canterbury-based firm Clague, is expected to meet rigorous design standards and include renewable regeneration facilities that will provide at least 10 per cent of power requirements.

"It's a positive to add to a somewhat negative situation," Tricker said.

Chocolate powered F3 car is ready to eat up Brands

MOTORSPORT fans will get a glimpse into the future at Brands Hatch this afternoon with the competitive debut of an eco-friendly Formula 3 car, powered by chocolate.

The car, designed by a team of researchers at Warwick University, is a world first for motor racing and will complete its first-ever race in the Formula 3 Cardinus Championship. It's partly built from potatoes and carrots, with an engine fuelled by a mixture of vegetable oil and chocolate.

Race cars have often experimented with alternative renewable fuels in the past, but this is the first car to be completely eco-friendly.

Rochester-based single-seater driver Aaron Steele will pilot the car for its maiden race and after a brief test last month at Rockingham, he feels there is no reason why he can't secure a podium finish.

He said: "It's a unique opportunity which I am looking forward to. I have driven the car before, but since then it has been upgraded so we are expecting it to be right on the pace. A couple of podium finishes may not be out of our reach."

"As a driver I have never really thought a car could be made in this way, so it's very interesting. It has sparked a lot of interest in the sport and I think cars and technology like this need to be embraced in the future. We



ECO-FRIENDLY: Aaron Steele with the Formula 3 car powered by chocolate and vegetable oil

have all seen Audi and Peugeot win the Le Mans 24 hour race using diesel cars, so this could be the future."

Although excited by the challenge, Steele admitted it's been tough for him this season without a regular drive, and hopes this weekend's experience will put him in the frame for a new drive next year.

He said: "This weekend it will be nice just to get back out there racing. I have been working hard throughout the year trying to get funds for next year and hopefully I will be back on the grid somewhere."

Ford driving for strong finish to a fine season

MATT Ford will attempt to top off a stellar finish to the season when he takes part in the Srixon PGA Play-offs next week.

The season-ending tournament brings together the top 21 players from the PGA's regions in Britain and Ireland to crown an overall champion.

At stake is a lucrative prize which includes entry to the European Tour's biggest event – the BMW PGA Championship at Wentworth – plus places in the Scottish Open, Wales Open and European Open.

Ford, a professional at Maidstone's Tudor Park, goes into the tournament with arguably the best form in the field. The 31-year-old enjoyed a superb finish to the PGA South Region season, winning two events in a fortnight.

The victories in the Southern Masters at West Malling and Keith MacDonald Memorial Matchplay championship at Tynley, Hampshire, saw the Bearsted golfer finish second



IN FORM: Maidstone's Matt Ford overall in the Order of Merit.

The tournament, held at Little Aston near Birmingham, begins on Wednesday.

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Mixed reaction to ELV rules changing the face of rugby

New laws in rugby continue to divide opinion in the game. STEVE TERVET looks at what effect they've had in county known for its strong rugby roots

A YEAR on from the introduction of Experimental Law Variations (ELV), Kent's officials, coaches and players remain divided in their opinions of what has been one of rugby union's biggest talking points.

When the 13 rule changes were implemented at the beginning of last season, many clubs were concerned by a lack of consistent refereeing with some laws thrown open to the interpretation of officials, and others seemingly threatening the future of old-fashioned forward play.

Andy Golding, director of rugby at London 1 South side Maidstone, said: "Referees haven't quite got to grips with the situation in the ruck – it's up to their discretion what to penalise and with 19 different ruck offences, it's a real grey area."

"However, rugby is changing, it's becoming quicker and the ELVs have made people sit up and think about the way they play the game. The fact teams have become more astute tactically is a very good thing for the game."

By contrast, Westcombe Park's director of rugby, Steve Reynolds, who raised the same point at the start of 2008-09, now feels the



SCRUM DEAL: Players standing less than five yards behind a scrum will be off-side

men in the middle have got things under control when it comes to the variations.

"The referees have improved greatly as time's gone on, they are now used to the rules and it's a lot more black and white – there

are no grey areas any more," he said. "We've definitely had to adjust our own tactics – we're seeing a lot more scrum-halves kicking just outside their own 22 and less fly-halves kicking for touch. There's no doubt the ELVs have speeded the game up."

Westcombe Park ply their trade in National League 2 South and there has been a general acceptance across the board that the ELVs have had a varying impact at different standards of the game.

Thanet Wanderers compete in London 1 South and head their coach, Darryl Vas, believes some of the rule changes have failed to have a major impact at that level.

"I don't think the rule about standing five yards back at the scrum has made much difference in our league, but it may have had an effect at a higher level," he said. "More changes have been made since this time last year and to be honest, I'm quite ambivalent about the whole thing – we've just got to look at making it work for us."

Agreement

"I'm happy they've brought back the driving maul – this is supposed to be a game for people of all sizes and it was being turned into something more like rugby league. If we wanted to play rugby league then we'd go and play it."

There is almost universal agreement when it comes to the reinstatement of the original maul law – one of the 13 ELVs stated players could defend a maul by pulling it down, but a backlash from all sides of the game resulted in a rethink and the variation, along with the line-out experiment, was scrapped.

Geoff Davies, a Kent League referee, said: "I never thought the law about pulling down the maul was a good idea. It was becoming dangerous and I like to keep the players on their feet for as long as possible. I don't know why they changed the line-out law last season – it was terrible, so many players were coming in and out, it was like Strictly Come Dancing."

"You will always get different views but I feel the game is moving in the right direction. I don't want to see a game where the influence of forwards is negated – I would hate it to reach a stage where we



PERMITTED: Lifting players at the line-out will still be allowed

EXPERIMENTAL LAW VARIATIONS – A BRIEF GUIDE

IN May, 2008, it was decided to bring 13 law changes into northern hemisphere rugby union, with 23 already in use in the southern hemisphere.

The variations were introduced in autumn 2008, with the aim of producing more open, free-flowing rugby.

Three of the changes proved hugely unpopular – including those permitting the collapsing of mauls and allowing unrestricted numbers in the line-out. Both were changed for the start of 2009-10.

The remaining 10 ELVs have been recommended to be passed into law – these include:

- Playing the ball back into the 22 and kicking out of the play on the full does not mean ground gained
- Players less than five yards behind a scrum will be ruled off-side
- A quick throw-in can go back towards a team's own goal line
- Lifting players at line-outs is permitted

take the game down the rugby league route. This is a fantastic sport for all shapes and sizes – fat blokes, thin blokes, all sorts."

Picture: ADY KERRY

It's back to school for Gills ace

A FEAR of ending up on the post-retirement scrapheap has prompted Mark Bentley to begin a university degree course.

The Gillingham midfielder turns 32 in January and is into the final year of his contract at Priestfield. Although Bentley is not planning to hang up his boots for some time, he is determined not to repeat the mistakes of many lower league players who retire without making financial plans for the future.

"It needs to be done because I don't want to finish my football career and end up on the scrapheap like a lot of players who don't realise how tough it's going to be," he told Kent on Sunday.

"I've had a taste of how hard you have to work outside of football when I played part-time, so I want to make sure I'm prepared."

Bentley has signed up for a sports science and coaching course at Roehampton University, one of several degrees run by the Professional Footballers' Association in recent years. Attending lectures twice a week after training, the bulk of the course is done independently at home.

After a lengthy career in the game, the former Gravesend & Northfleet player admits it has been difficult getting back into studying.

"It's been a while and I wasn't the best the first time round," he joked.

"I don't know where it's going to lead me, I'm looking at maybe going into teaching or staying in the game. Hopefully it opens up a few avenues up for me. I'm enjoying it to be fair; it's another challenge for me, but I don't want it to affect my football."



THINKING AHEAD: Mark Bentley is already planning for life after football

Level-headed Sam's on his way up

WHILE the majority of county cricketers will be putting their feet up and taking a well-earned rest, Kent youngster Sam Northeast will be travelling the globe to continue his cricket education, **writes Glenn Pearson.**

The 19-year-old capped off a debut season by carrying his bat in an unbeaten 128 – his first century for Kent – which came against Derbyshire in the final championship game of the summer.

His progress for Kent this summer has not gone unrecognised by the national selectors, who included both Northeast and county team-mate Alex Blake in the England performance squad for the winter tour to South Africa.

The Ashford-born batsman joins up with the 41-man squad in Loughborough next month before the three-week tour gets under way and is looking forward to the challenge.

"I knew a few weeks ago after getting the call but it's nice to be included in something like that," he said.

"I see it as part of my winter programme and a chance to make myself a better player, it'll be good fun.

"I went to South Africa on an under-19 tour last year and this time around it will be nice to test myself against other young players coming through.

It doesn't end there for the England under-



Picture: ADY KERRY

GLOBETROTTER: Sam Northeast is part of England performance squad in South Africa

19 batsman, who has scheduled a trip to India to work on his technique against spin bowling, before heading back out to South

Africa to work with former county coach Graham Ford.

The South African has clearly left a mark on the Kent youngster. Northeast attributes much of his progress to Ford's style of coaching and there's evidence of that, not only in his batting, but his whole approach to the game which carries all the hallmarks of Kent's outgoing director of cricket.

"The next stage of my career is to come back from this winter a better player, but it's about not getting too far ahead of myself," Northeast said. "I want to make a mark on the side and cement my place in the team so that I am one of the first names on the team sheet at the beginning of the season.

"I learnt this summer that it's not how well you can hit a cricket ball, it's how you deal with the situation and that comes with experience, but it's something I'll have to learn quickly."

Although having decided to take another gap year from Durham University to concentrate on cementing a place at St Lawrence, Northeast admits he will forget about studying if he becomes a regular fixture in the Kent side.

The teenager is also in the process of signing a one-year extension to his contract at Kent which would have expired at the end of next summer.



RECALL: Kent's fast bowler Amjad Khan is heading to South Africa this winter

Whole Surrey saga is at an end as Key re-signs for Kent

New contract quashes rumours



By **GLENN PEARSON**

SPECULATION as to whether Rob Key would be moving to Surrey was finally quashed this week when the Kent skipper signed a new long-term contract at the club.

The 30-year-old was the subject of interest from Surrey, but has shown his commitment to Kent by signing an extension to his contract that was due to expire at the end of 2010.

Key, who made his First-Class debut for Kent in 1998 and has scored more than 14,000 runs for the club, has also been reappointed as captain for the 2010 season.

He said: "I'm very happy to commit my future to Kent. There have been lots of rumours about me leaving the club but at no stage have I spoken, or have other clubs spoken to me.

"I am and always will be committed to trying to win trophies and bring success to Kent County Cricket Club."

New head coach Paul Farbrace fell short of saying it was a relief that the skipper had signed a new deal, but did say the

news meant the club can now move on by building their side around Key.

"Everyone will be pleased because if you get your captain signing a long-term contract, together with one of your best players in Martin van Jaarsveld, they are players you can build your team around," he told Kent on Sunday.

"I don't think he was ever going to leave but I know there were lots of rumours, with Surrey in particular, and I think it's a compliment when other counties are interested in your players – I would be concerned if they weren't."

Key, who scored a personal best of 270 not out against Glamorgan and was part of England's ICC World Twenty20 squad, led Kent back to the top tier in the County Championship last summer.

Contribution

Graham Johnson, Kent's chairman of cricket, said: "Rob has made a tremendous contribution to the club, both as a player and captain.

"We see him, along with some other key players, as being the core of our side so I am very pleased that he has committed his long-term future to Kent.

"He was open and honest throughout contract talks and brought a sense of fun to discussions. We look forward to him continuing to bring these characteristics to what he does, both on and off the field.

"The cricket committee was unanimous in wanting him to continue as captain in 2010."

Khan back in England frame after tour call-up

THE England selectors remain interested in Kent fast bowler Amjad Khan after they named him in the England performance squad for next month's tour of South Africa.

Khan, 28, was named as one of four players in a new enhanced England performance programme.

Together with Mark Davies (Durham), Michael Carberry (Hampshire) and Stephen Moore (Lancashire), Khan is part of the A list in the group, which means he is perceived to be closest to graduating to the England team.

Talent

While it's good news for the Danish-born bowler, Kent head coach Paul Farbrace insists Khan must put in the hard yards in to make the most of his talent.

"It's good that he is in the selectors' thoughts but he knows he's not on a Test tour and there's a lot of hard work to be put in," he said. "It's great to be in the pot, but equally it's about showing what he is capable of."

Khan, who took 36 First-Class wickets during the summer, is named in the main group and is hopeful of adding to the one Test he played for England in the series against West Indies last winter.

"This is great news for me," he said. "It goes to show that I am still highly thought of by the England selectors. Theoretically, I guess, I'm only a couple of injuries away from playing international cricket again."

COMMITMENT Rob Key has signed an extension to his current Kent contract

Picture: ADY KERRY

ATHLETICS

Kent cross country
champ's relaxed approach
to World Championships **78**



Sport

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CRICKET

Rob Key extends
contract to stay
at Kent **79**



KENT TARGET HOGGY DEAL

County express interest in ex-England bowler

EXCLUSIVE

By **GLENN PEARSON**

FORMER England bowler Matthew Hoggard is a target for Kent as they look to bolster their attack in preparation for a return to the top tier of the County Championship.

Hoggard is available after an acrimonious and shock departure from Yorkshire, and could be the man to help bring along Kent's young bowlers in Division One next summer.

The 32-year-old, who took 248 wickets in 67 Tests for England in an international career that spans almost eight years, would undoubtedly be a major acquisition for the county, although his wage demands and length of contract could prove a stumbling block.

Interested

New head coach Paul Farbrace revealed to Kent on Sunday that the club's cricket committee are interested in bringing him to Canterbury, but it's understood they are yet to talk to the player.

"Any seam bowler that is on the market with that sort of quality you have to be interested in," Farbrace told Kent on Sunday. "Anyone with that quality, at 32, who has taken more than 600 First-Class wickets, you have to have a look at. He is someone that would bring quality to the attack."

"We have talked about him, yes, and we

are looking at his record as we need to know all about him."

Hoggard expressed frustration at his departure from Yorkshire, claiming the White Rose county had offered him a two-year deal at the start of last season, which they took back when he decided to wait until the end of the summer to make a decision about his future.

Leicestershire have already expressed an interest in the seam bowler, although with Kent being promoted to Division One of the championship, it's likely they would have the greater pulling power.

Hoggard is eager to continue playing county cricket and was quoted this week as saying: "I was looking forward to using my experience to bring on the next generation of Yorkshire bowlers, but I'll have to do that somewhere else now. I still feel as though I've got a good few years in me and it's up to me now to prove that Yorkshire were wrong to let me go."

While Kent have expressed an interest in the charismatic cricketer, the chance of him signing for Kent is likely to depend on his demands. With one of the lowest budgets and staff on the county circuit, Farbrace, along with skipper Rob Key and coach Simon Willis, will have to weigh up whether they plump for Hoggard or look elsewhere to supplement their bowling attack.

Farbrace said: "We have identified players that we are interested in that can add quality to the squad. We are working through those to see who is available on our wish list. The important thing is to make sure they can add quality and be the right personality that will fit into the team."



Picture: ADY KERRY

CHARISMATIC: Matthew Hoggard has taken more than 600 First-Class wickets

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Gills loaners out to prove a point

GILLINGHAM strengthened their ranks this week with two loan signings, each arriving with a point to prove to their respective clubs, *writes David Pritchard.*

Colchester striker Scott Vernon and West Ham defender Matt Fry signed one-month loan deals at the club on Thursday, but neither ruled out staying for longer if necessary.

Just three weeks ago Gills boss Mark Stimson was unable to go out and make additions, but extra resources were made available to bolster two key areas of the side.

Vernon, 25, arrives to help take some of the goalscoring burden off Simeon Jackson. The former Blackpool forward scored three goals in Colchester's first five games this season – including one in the league game against



HITMAN: Scott Vernon aims to offer Simeon Jackson support

the Gills in August – but has fallen down the pecking order since Aidy Boothroyd took over as manager last month.

Several clubs were interested in signing Vernon on a short-term deal, but he told Kent on Sunday the deciding factor was the Gills' playing style.

"Both games we've played against Gillingham this season they've looked to play football, which is a big thing for me," he said. "I like to play in a footballing team and I think that will suit me more than a long-ball team. Obviously they've got some good players and it's been known they were looking for a striker, so it's fitted in."

While Vernon will be hoping to perform well enough at Priestfield to get back into Boothroyd's plans, Fry's main motivation is to gain experience.

The 19-year-old has progressed as far as West Ham's reserves,

but like the majority of youngsters at top-flight clubs, he has found the only way to gain first-team experience is by dropping down into the Football League.

Despite being forced to temporarily leave his parent club, the centre-back, who was keen to return after a trial at Priestfield last month, does not see it as a step backwards.

"Not at all, having spoken to West Ham they see it as a big step forward," he said. "[West Ham manager Gianfranco] Zola's not afraid to put players in, but it's not that common."

"If you look across the Premiership you see quite often players take it to get first-team football. It's a big thing and you can learn a lot from it – that's what I'm hoping to do."